

## Out of the Tomb; John 5:24-29

### I. Judgment

#### a. Peter at the gates of heaven

- i. John 5:24 (ESV); Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.
- ii. Romans 8:1 (ESV); There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.
- iii. Romans 8:33–34 (ESV); <sup>33</sup> Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. <sup>34</sup> Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.
- iv. 1 Thessalonians 4:16–17 (ESV); <sup>16</sup> For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. <sup>17</sup> Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord.

#### b. So, what does it mean 'passed from death to life'?

### II. Death

- a. We associate this word 'death' with physical death
- b. We often think about Jesus calling Lazarus out of the tomb
- c. But Jesus is not speaking about physical death, but spiritual death
- d. John 5:25 (ESV); "Truly, truly, I say to you, an hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live.
- e. Sin kills
  - i. Genesis 2:15–17 (ESV); <sup>15</sup> The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. <sup>16</sup> And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, <sup>17</sup> but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."
  - ii. What happened when they ate the fruit of the tree?
  - iii. God created a law – you sin, you die
  - iv. Ephesians 2:1 (ESV); And you were dead in the trespasses and sins
  - v. "The wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23 in part) – you sin, you die
- f. We were (are) the living dead
- g. 'But God' has an answer for that

### III. Life

- a. Ephesians 2:4–5 (ESV); <sup>4</sup> But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, <sup>5</sup> even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—
- b. We are alive!

- i. I remember when I became a ‘new creature’, when I called on the name of Jesus, when His blood cleansed me of my sins – when I passed from death to life
- ii. I describe myself (life) before Jesus as a practicing heathen
- iii. Colossians 2:13–14 (ESV); <sup>13</sup> And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, <sup>14</sup> by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.
- iv. I ran out of that grave!
- v. John 5:28–29 (ESV); <sup>28</sup> Do not marvel at this, for an hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice <sup>29</sup> and come out, those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of judgment.
- vi. Colossians 1:13–14 (ESV); <sup>13</sup> He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, <sup>14</sup> in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.
- c. Those who are in Christ are no longer dead, we are no longer in our tomb (as we once were)

#### IV. Out of the Tomb

- a. Matthew 27:51–54 (ESV); <sup>51</sup> And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split. <sup>52</sup> The tombs also were opened. And many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised, <sup>53</sup> and coming out of the tombs after his resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many. <sup>54</sup> When the centurion and those who were with him, keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were filled with awe and said, “Truly this was the Son of God!”
- b. Just like these saints who were called from their graves, just as Lazarus was called from his tomb, so are we
- c. “You called my name and I ran out of that grave. Out of the darkness into Your glorious day”

#### V.