

Message Four

Attaining to the Out-resurrection

Scripture Reading: Phil. 3:10-14

- I. The result of being conformed to Christ's death is that we may attain to the out-resurrection from the dead—Phil. 3:11.**
- II. To attain to the out-resurrection is to arrive at the out-resurrection; this requires us to triumphantly the race for the prize—1 Cor. 9:24-26; 2 Tim. 4:7-8; Heb. 12:1-2.**
- III. The out-resurrection is the outstanding resurrection, the extra-resurrection, which will be a prize to the overcoming saints—Rev. 20:4, 6:**
 - A. All believers who are dead in Christ will participate in the resurrection from the dead at the Lord's coming back—1 Thes. 4:16; 1 Cor. 15:52.
 - B. The Lord's overcomers will enjoy an extra, outstanding portion of that resurrection, a resurrection in which they will receive the reward of the kingdom; this is what the apostle Paul sought after—Heb. 11:35, 26.
 - C. The out-resurrection should be the goal and destination of our Christian life—Phil. 3:11-15a.
- IV. To arrive at the out-resurrection indicates that our entire being is gradually and continually resurrected—1 Thes. 5:23:**
 - A. God first resurrected our deadened spirit; He proceeds to resurrect our soul and our mortal body until our whole being—spirit, soul, and body—is fully resurrected out of our old being by His life and with His life—Eph. 2:5-6; Rom. 8:6, 11.
 - B. This is a process in life through which we must pass and a race that we must run until we arrive at the out-resurrection as the prize—Phil. 3:11-14
 - C. If we are conformed to Christ's death, every part of our being will be gradually resurrected; thus, the Christian life is a process of resurrection.
 - D. We can reach this goal only by being conformed to the death of Christ by living a crucified life—v. 11; Gal. 2:20.
 - E. In the death of Christ we are processed from the old creation to the new—Phil. 3:10-11; 2 Cor. 5:17.
- V. The out-resurrection is a resurrection out of the old creation into the new creation—Gal. 6:15; 2 Cor. 5:17:**
 - A. To be in the out-resurrection means to leave everything of the old creation and to be brought into God.
 - B. In the out-resurrection there is no element of the old creation; instead, everything is full of the divine element—Rev. 21:5a.
- VI. For Paul to live was Christ as the out-resurrection—Phil. 1:21a; 3:11:**
 - A. The out-resurrection is actually the dear, precious, excellent person of Christ, the One who, through crucifixion and resurrection, has passed out of the old creation and has entered into God—John 14:3, 20; Heb. 6:19-20.
 - B. The Christ whom we should live is Himself the out-resurrection—Phil. 1:21a; 3:11; John 11:25.

VII. In Philippians 3:12 Paul had already obtained the believers' common salvation by the believers' common faith, but he had not obtained the extra portion of resurrection:

A. To obtain that portion he had to pursue, to run, and to finish the course triumphantly—2 Tim. 4:7-8.

B. The Greek word for *pursue* in Philippians 3:12 is the same word as for *persecute*; this word also means *to press forward, to follow after*:

1. In such a way Paul ran the race to obtain to obtain the prize and reach maturity.

2. Before he was saved, he persecuted Christ; after he was saved, he pursued Christ to such an extent that he persecuted Christ, but in a positive way.

VIII. We need to be conformed to Christ's death so that by any means we may attain to the out-resurrection from the dead; this is the only way for the Lord to go on in His recovery, the only way for the Lord to build up His church, the only way to prepare the bride, and the only way to bring the Lord back—Phil. 3:10-11; Matt. 16:18; Rev. 19:7-9a; 22:14, 20.