I Am the Resurrection and the Life

Last Sunday we celebrated the Resurrection of Jesus. During His last week, He suffered, died and was buried, and then resurrected from the dead. Today, I would like us to look at the Scriptures to better understand the significance of Jesus’ Resurrection.

Romans 6
8 Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, 9 knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion over Him.

I Thessalonians 5:23 Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. (NASB)

Remember that when God created man, He formed the man’s body from the dust of the earth and breathed His Breath into the man, and at that moment he became a living being. God created Adam in His own image and likeness, creating him in three parts — spirit and soul and body, and covering him in glory with the prospect of his being clothed in royal garments, all of which would reflect God’s stated purpose for man — to rule over the earth in Satan’s stead. Then God placed the man in the Garden and told him to cultivate and keep the Garden, having pointed out two specific trees in the center of the Garden — the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. God commanded the man not to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for in the day that he would eat of that tree, he would surely die.

Then we read: Genesis 2:18 And the LORD God said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him." God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and as he slept God opened up the man’s side, took out a part of his body and from that part (and only from that part) He built the helper. Then God presented this helper to the man, and the man named her “Woman” saying, Genesis 2:23 …And Adam said: "This is now bone of my bones And flesh of my flesh; She shall be called Woman, Because she was taken out of Man." Then God described the two of them with this statement: Genesis 2:25 And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.

Before and After the Fall

Life and death affected all three part of the man:

- **Spirit — His God-Conscious Part**
  Before the fall, Adam had spiritual union with God. After the fall, he became separated from God, and in that sense, he died spiritually.

- **Soul — His Man-Conscious Part**
  Before the fall, Adam only knew and experienced good. After the fall, his soul became separated from only knowing good (as God intended); he had come to know evil through experience. His feelings, desires and emotions had become corrupted, and in that sense, his soul died.

- **Body — His Physical Entity which Housed His Spirit and Soul**
Before the fall, Adam’s body had been covered in glory. After the fall, he became separated from the covering of God’s glory (became utterly naked), and in that state was unable to put on the clothing of splendor and majesty, and in that sense, his body died.

In understanding all of this, we have to remember that death in the bible never means annihilation but separation. Though Adam’s spirit died it still existed, but had become separated from God. Though Adam’s soul died it still existed, but had become corrupt. Though Adam’s body died it still existed, but it had become separated from the glory with which it was once covered. This is the way we should view death as it is presented at the very beginning of God’s Word, and then throughout.

If man was ever to be brought back to the position for which he had been created, man would have to be brought back to life in its full scope. Man’s spirit and soul and body would have to be brought back to the original state as expressed in our opening passage today: **I Thessalonians 5:23**

_now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.* (NASB)

And the very reason we can know that this must be the case is because of a passage we have looked at so many times before: **Isaiah 46:9 Remember the former things of old, For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me, 10 Declaring the end from the beginning, And from ancient times things that are not yet done, Saying, 'My counsel shall stand, And I will do all My pleasure,**... So God tells the end through the telling of the beginning.

We have seen how God brought the man and the woman back into spiritual union with Him, bestowing upon them spiritual life once again. This was done by God through the slaying of an innocent animal, and God clothing the man and the woman with the skins thereof. But the death and shedding of blood of an innocent animal – an act performed by God on their behalf – only dealt with the death/life of their spirits! Their souls and bodies were still in a dead state: their souls were still corrupted and their bodies still lacked the glory.

Even after bringing them back into spiritual union with God (spiritual life), God once again acted on their behalf by placing them outside the Garden, in order to protect their way to the tree of life, and states His purpose for doing so: **Genesis 3:22 Then the LORD God said, “Behold, the man has become like one of Us, to know good and evil. And now, lest he put out his hand and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever” - 23 therefore the LORD God sent him out of the garden of Eden to till the ground from which he was taken.** God did not desire them to live forever (literally “for a long period of time”) in that state – of having a redeemed spirit, housed alongside a corrupted soul, in a body devoid of glory.

More work had to be done in order to bring the soul and the body back to life again. And man, having been brought back into spiritual union with God, would need to participate with Him in this work. Therefore, God commanded the man to till (work) the ground from which he had been taken and which had become cursed due to his sin – the very ground from which God had formed his body.

Certainly God’s act of setting Adam and Eve outside the Garden revealed that His plan for redemption was multi-faceted — a plan that was to extend beyond simply bringing them back into
spiritual union with Him. More had to be done if the man and woman were to be brought back to their pre-fallen state — back to the place of being able to rule in Satan’s stead.

And so, as we have seen, once man has spiritual life, then there is an expectation by God of work on man’s part — work that would have to be done in conjunction with God’s Spirit (through spiritual union with Him); work with respect to the salvation of his soul and the redemption of his body. Ephesians 2:10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them. And Philippians 2:12 Therefore, my beloved… … work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. This “working out our own salvation” is the work which has to done in order to bring our corrupted soul and ‘naked’ body back to life — life as it is presented at the beginning of Scripture. And the only means to have life restored to its original state is through resurrection power, which will be our focus.

Let’s stop to consider how the Holy Spirit used Paul to bring to light the whole counsel of God! Paul explains this to the Church in Corinth: I Corinthians 2:1 And I, brethren, when I came to you, did not come with excellence of speech or of wisdom declaring to you the testimony of God. 2 For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified. Here Paul is reminding those in Corinth that he initially brought to them the message of Jesus Christ and Him crucified, and that message only! He even reiterates this fact a bit further along in this same letter when he wrote: I Corinthians 15:3 For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures…

This was the initial message each of us first received as well, isn’t it? Christ died for our sins! Paul refers to it again in I Corinthians 5:7b For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us. Christ’s death, and nothing more, is the message to be given to those who are “dead in trespasses and sin” — all who have been born after the likeness of Adam, wherein death affects the spirit, and soul, and body.

But once that message was given and received, Paul did not stop there, as there was more which needed to be accomplished in bringing man back to life seen foundationally in Scripture. It was for that reason that Paul followed the message of Christ’s death with the message of His burial and resurrection: I Corinthians 15:3 For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, [nothing except Christ and Him crucified…and then he went on to teach] 4 and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures … We see here that the message dealing with our spiritual death is Christ died according to the Scriptures. Period. But then once spiritual life is received through believing in the death of Jesus, there is a follow-up message: He was buried and raised…according to the Scriptures – raised to life again. And it is this part of the overall message that has to do with the salvation of the soul and the redemption of the body.

Not only did Paul explain it this way in Corinth, but also in Ephesus. In speaking to the elders there, Paul said: Acts 20:18 … “You know, from the first day that I came to Asia, in what manner I always lived among you … …20 how I kept back nothing that was helpful, but proclaimed it to you, and taught you publicly and from house to house, 21 testifying to Jews, and also to Greeks, repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ. … 24
But none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God. [By the grace of God Jesus died, and through His death, we can have spiritual life. But to those who have that life, there is a follow-up message…] 25 And indeed, now I know that you all, among whom I have gone preaching the kingdom of God, will see my face no more. 26 Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all men. [Then Paul reveals that these are both facets of the gospel message…] 27 For I have not shunned to declare to you the whole counsel of God …”

Succinctly stated, the Gospel of Grace has to do with Jesus’ death and nothing more. But the whole counsel of God also encompasses burial and resurrection to life again. Burial and resurrection have to do with the salvation of the soul and the redemption of the body with a view to life in the Coming Age (the Kingdom Age) when fully redeemed man (that is man brought back to life in spirit, soul and body) will rule over the earth fulfilling his created purpose, which was God’s declaration at the beginning.

We see these facets of Paul’s message again in what he wrote to the Church in Rome. Romans 5:8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us [the Gospel of Grace]. 9 Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. 10 For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. There is a future salvation to be realized, brought about through the power of Christ’s life – His resurrection.

This is encapsulated in the preaching of the kingdom. (Remember, after Paul first gave the Church at Ephesus the Gospel of the Grace of God, concerning the death of Jesus, he went on preaching the kingdom – with both facets of Paul’s message comprising the whole purpose of God [Acts 20].) And from the passage in Romans, we can see that we have been saved by his death — referring to our spiritual birth (Rom. 5:8)! But then, as Paul states it, “much more then… we shall be saved by His life”. This future salvation is also mentioned in Hebrews 9:27 And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment, 28 so Christ also, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, shall appear a second time for salvation without reference to sin, to those who eagerly await Him. (NASB) This future salvation has to do with an inheritance in the coming Kingdom of Christ.

We can see this pictured in the Children of Israel on the Night of Passover. When the individual Israelite households throughout Egypt slew the paschal lambs that night, they applied its blood on the door posts and lintel of their houses. Then when the Angel of the Lord traversed the land of Egypt that night and saw the blood, He passed over those houses, (that’s why it is called “Passover”) because a death had already taken place within, signified by the application of the blood. In that, God counted the Nation of Israel as having died. Their faith, demonstrated by the application of the lamb’s blood to the door posts and lintel of their house, brought them out of the place of spiritual death and gave them spiritual life. However, even though they had been brought to life spiritually, they still had a corrupted soul and body, and in that state, they would not be able to receive their inheritance in the Promised Land within a theocracy. Vicariously, they died in Egypt the night of the Passover (through the death of the lamb), but they had yet to be
buried and resurrected to life again. And with an inheritance in a theocratic kingdom on offer, this is exactly what needed to happen.

As we have seen then, God’s complete plan of redemption not only encompasses death according to the Scriptures, but also encompasses burial and resurrection – according to the Scriptures (I Cor. 15:3, 4). And we can see this demonstrated in Israel’s death in Egypt (pictured vicarously through the death of the Passover lamb), and then their being led into the Red Sea (picture their burial, as the sea is often a metaphor for ‘the place of the dead’ in Scripture), and then being brought up out of the Red Sea and placed onto the Eastern bank (picture their resurrection). All of this is so that they would have resurrection power to walk in newness of life, having the opportunity to prove themselves worthy to receive their inheritance in the Promised Land through continued obedience.

But for Israel…after these things had taken place, rather than choosing to walk in the power of resurrection life through obedience to God as they made their trek to the inheritance awaiting them in the Promised Land, they chose instead to disobey God and longed to go back to Egypt, though God would not allow their return to bondage, as He had redeemed them!

There is so much for us to learn here! In speaking of this first generation of Israel coming out of Egypt, Paul says in I Corinthians 10:6 Now these things became our examples, to the intent that we should not lust after evil things as they also lusted… . …11 Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition…

As stated, the things that happened to Israel on the Night of Passover and beyond serve as examples to us, and have been written down for our admonition. Therefore, that pictured on the Night of Passover and beyond reveals that God’s plan for us not only encompasses our death (which is pictured through the vicarious death of our Passover [I Cor. 5:7]), but also encompasses our burial and resurrection (which is pictured in baptism), so that we can walk in obedience as we look forward to the inheritance reserved for us in heaven, according to I Peter 1:3ff.

All of this to say…not only do we “die with Christ” (which gives us spiritual life), we also have to be “buried with Him”, and “raised with Him” in order to walk in newness of life (pictured through our baptism). Paul lays it out like this: Romans 6:5 For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection, 6 knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. 7 For he who has died has been freed from sin. 8 Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him. 9 knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion over Him. 10 For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God. 11 Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord. 12 Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts. 13 And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.
Paul also taught Timothy about this dying and living with Christ with respect to rulership in the kingdom, shedding more light on the complete picture. **II Timothy 2:11 This is a faithful saying:**

For if we died with Him, We shall also live with Him. 12 If we endure, We shall also reign with Him. If we deny Him, He also will deny us. 13 If we are faithless, He remains faithful; He cannot deny Himself.

This “trustworthy statement” as Paul calls it, really encapsulates the complete picture of the whole purpose of God. A person who has died with Christ has the choice to

- Live with Him through choosing to walk in the power of His resurrection, as well as to
- Endure in order to reign with Him. Or to
- Deny Christ, which would bring about Christ’s denial of that person when it comes time for the JSOC, because that person denied the two things in v. 11 — living with Him and enduring.

And if that person continues to be

- Faithless, he will see that God will remain faithful (to His Word) because God cannot deny Himself; He cannot deny His Word. (Remember, Jesus is the Word.)

**The New Nature vs. the Old Nature**

A person who puts faith in the death of Jesus and comes into spiritual life now possesses a new nature — a spiritual nature which is in union with God’s Spirit. However, this person still possesses his old nature, inherited from Adam in that his soul is still corrupted and his body is still devoid of glory. And in that condition — possessing two natures — the person has a very defined choice to make. He can choose to either walk according

- To the flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh, or
- To the spirit, fulfilling the desires of the spirit.

Paul tells us that there are two distinctive outcomes in making either choice! **Romans 8:1** There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. 2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death… …5 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. 6 For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. … …13 For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. 14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

**Jesus’ Own Words**

Saying it this way, the Lord Jesus offered His disciples (and by extension, He offers us) the same choice: **Matthew 16:24** Then Jesus said to His disciples, “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. 25 For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. 26 For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? 27 For the Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and then He will reward each according to his works…”
Jesus says that if any one desires to become His disciple, there are certain qualifications to be met. You and I must:

- **Deny ourselves.** That would mean that we would stop thinking that we are entitled to be weak in our flesh. Honestly we need to stop making excuses for ourselves. If God says to stop complaining, we stop complaining. If God says to stop lying or cheating or slandering or gossiping, etc., etc., we stop lying and cheating and slandering and gossiping, etc., etc. If God says to stop indulging the flesh in…whatever, we STOP! And in doing these things, actually we

- **Take up our own cross.** Taking up our own cross is a metaphor for dying to our fleshly desires. Christ died in the flesh leaving us an example as to how we are to die to the flesh. Peter succinctly explains the example we have in Jesus: 1 Peter 2:21 For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps: 22 “Who committed no sin, Nor was deceit found in His mouth”; 23 who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously; 24 who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness--by whose stripes you were healed. And then denying ourselves and taking up our own cross would put us in the position to

- **Follow Christ in discipleship.** While spiritual birth is a free gift, our becoming His disciple costs a great deal! The cost is our reckoning ourselves dead in Him, buried with Him and raised with Him in order to walk in His resurrection power. And it is well worth the cost; well worth the exchange of our fleshly life here and now, for life that is truly life in the Coming Age.

The choices we make on a day to day basis will have direct bearing on our future life or death when the Son of Man comes in the glory of His Father with His angels, in order to recompense every man according to his deeds. The choice is really up to us!

**Resurrection to Life Again**

So, how would walking in the spirit be done on a day-to-day basis? Paul tells us how he strove to achieve walking in the spirit. Philippians 3:7 But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. 8 Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ 9 and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith; 10 that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, 11 if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection [Lit., out-resurrection] from the dead.

In verse 10, the Greek word for resurrection literally means to stand up. By the power of God, Jesus stood up from physical death. And because of His resurrection, so will all of mankind stand up from physical death. Whether saved or unsaved, everyone who has ever lived will be resurrected (will stand up from death) at one time or another, unless they would be caught up in the rapture of the Church. And in v. 11 the same Greek word is used again, only here it has a prefix attached to it. And this prefix makes the word literally mean to stand up out of the dead.
Paul is revealing his desire to attain to something that not all Christians will attain to. Implicitly, Paul refers to the resurrection/rapture of the Body of Christ in that future day, when the Church will be caught up to God in order to stand before the JSOC. There, judgments and determinations will be meted out to all individuals making up the Body of Christ, and as a result of these judgments and determinations, a part of Christ’s Body will stand up out of the remainder of His Body. Those within the Body of Christ, who attain to this out-resurrection, will have done so because they chose to follow Paul’s example of suffering the loss of all things in order to gain Christ. They will be those who have striven to
  •  Know Christ! And
  •  The power of His resurrection, and
  •  The fellowship of His suffering – being conformed to His death.

We can only come to know Christ through the WORD, since Jesus is the Word made flesh. There is transforming power in this Word — the Word transforms us from the inside out, bringing about the metamorphosis of becoming like Christ. And based upon what we have seen from His Word (which can only be understood through an alive spirit), then we are to consider/reckon our fleshly nature as having died with Christ and buried with Him, as it is only through death and burial, that we have the ability to walk in the power of His resurrection (through our redeemed spirit working in conjunction with the Holy Spirit). Remember, He died in the flesh leaving us an example of how we are to die to the flesh. And the working out of this process (Lit., the salvation of the soul) would allow us to be part of those out-resurrected from the dead — those who will stand up out of those who will remain separated from the Christ and His glory during a long period of time – the 1,000 year reign of Christ over the earth.

The Redemption of the Body

To see that the salvation of the soul is connected with the redemption of the body, we would only have to read: Romans 8:10 And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. 11 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you. Our mortal bodies will put on immortality either through resurrection or rapture, but we must understand that the resurrection/rapture is not the redemption of (the “salvation” of) our physical bodies. All people, both saved and unsaved will receive immortal bodies in the end.

We must remember that the death of the body – as it is initially presented in Scripture – is the loss of the covering of glory.

Paul goes on to clearly state what the redemption of the body is: Romans 8:16 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him in order that we may also be glorified with Him. 18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us. 19 For the anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly for the revealing of the sons of God. 20 For the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope 21 that the creation
itself also will be set free from its slavery to corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God. 22 For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now. 23 And not only this, but also we ourselves, having the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our body. (NASB)

The redemption of the body is the answer to the death of the body — its lack of glory, as seen at the very beginning. The redemption of the body is to be once again be covered in glory in order to receive the royal garments of splendor and majesty. And this glory will be granted only to those who shared in the suffering of Christ, shared in His death. We just read it in the previous passage — if indeed we suffer with Him in order that we may also be glorified with Him. Through following Christ’s example in dying, we will have denied ourselves, have taken up our cross and followed Christ in the way of discipleship resulting in the salvation of the soul which will simultaneously bring about the redemption of the body, the adoption as a son. (Remember the Greek word for adoption is son-placement; it is taking a son within the family and placing him as a firstborn.) And we know that within God’s Economy it will only be firstborn sons who will rule.

In Conclusion
As we bring this study to an end, let’s be sure we understand how that which was declared at the beginning is brought to pass at the end, God having told the end through the telling of the beginning. Let’s consider how Life, Death and Resurrection to Life Again fit together from the beginning to the end.

• In the beginning — towards the end of the 6th day, God formed Adam’s body from the dust of the earth. In the end — towards the end of 6,000 years, God will form the Body of the Second Man, the Last Adam by gathering dust of the earth through resurrection/rapture of the Church, which is the Body of Christ. (The resurrection of the physical bodies of all Christians who have died and whose bodies have returned to dust will be raised up. The bodies of those who will be raptured are still made of dust…so in a respect we can see God forming the whole Body of Christ through the resurrection/rapture of the Church, through the gathering of the dust of the earth.)

• In the beginning — towards the end of the 6th day, God took a part of Adam’s body out of his body in order to build a helper comparable to him. In the end — towards the end of 6,000 years, God will take a part of the Body of the Second Man, the Last Adam out of His Body in order to build a Helper comparable to Him through the out-resurrection.

• In the beginning — towards the end of the 6th day, God presented back to Adam the one taken out of his body in order for the two to become one and rule over the restored creation. In the end — towards the end of 6,000 years, God will present back to the Second Man, the Last Adam the One taken out of His body in order for the Two of them to become One and rule over the restored creation.
In the beginning — towards the end of the 6,000 years, God saw that the man and the woman were naked but not ashamed, covered in glory while they awaited the reception of the garments of splendor and majesty, which would portend their created purpose. In the end — towards the end of 6,000 years God will see the Second Man, the Last Adam along with His Bride, naked but not ashamed while they await the reception of the garments of splendor and majesty, which will portend their readiness to step into their rightful place as Joint-Rulers of the earth.

At this present moment, Christ is glorified, but does not yet wear the royal robes. He is waiting for the time when a Bride will be chosen for Him and for the time shortly thereafter when the Father will send Him back to earth to redeem the inheritance of the earth for Himself and for His Bride. The redemption of this inheritance will take place through events yet to unfold in the 7-year Tribulation, and will culminate in the Battle of Armageddon. It is at this Battle that Jesus with His angels will wrest the rulership of the earth away from Satan and his angels, and bring the Gentile world rulers to nothing. It is after this Battle that many of the things prophesied will be fulfilled. It is after this Battle that Christ Jesus will take His Bride as His Wife; the Two will don the royal robes of splendor and majesty and will be seated on the Throne in the Heavenly City as One, ruling over the earth from the Heavenly City.

We can see Christ coming as the King in Revelation 19:11 Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. 12 His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. 13 He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God.

And then we can see His Wife being clothed in royal robes in Revelation 19:6 And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunderings, saying, “Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns! 7 Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready.” 8 And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.

It will be a glorious day when those words are sounded: “Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns! …For the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready.”

That which is initially pictured as life for Adam and the Woman in the Garden at the beginning, but was brought into death because of Adam’s sin will be redeemed through the death, burial and resurrection of the Second Man the Last Adam. And the goal of the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ is to bring man back to life again in order that he may fulfill his created purpose in the way that it was declared by God at the beginning. God’s plans for mankind will be brought to pass and His good pleasure will be fully accomplished!

Because of what we now know, let us keep ever before us the words of God spoken to the prophet, Habakkuk: Habakkuk 2:2 Then the LORD answered me and said: ’Write the vision And make it plain on tablets, That he may run who reads it. 3 For the vision is yet for an appointed
time; But at the end it will speak, and it will not lie. Though it tarries, wait for it; Because it will surely come, It will not tarry …”

Joh 10:10 "The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

How should we live today?

2Pe 1:5 ¶ But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, 6 to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, 7 to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. 8 For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins. 10 Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble; 11 for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

We need to suffer with Christ daily, we need to die to self, so we can be resurrected (out resurrection) at the JSOC. Result is to put on the inner garment of glory and outer garment of splendor and majesty so we can rule and reign with Christ.

Titus 2
13 looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,
(NKJV)