

=THE HOLY SPIRIT=

Lesson 16

Our Resurrector

INTRODUCTION: When God performs His miracles, or for that matter, when He does any of His works, He does it all through the power of the Holy Spirit. The greatest miracle of all, of course, is the miracle of resurrection—the resurrection of the spirit and the body. This, of course, will be the final miracle that He performs during this age. Let us notice the three main resurrections of the Holy Spirit.

- I. **THE RESURRECTION OF REGENERATION.** John 3:5, “Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.” Notice a man must be born of the Spirit. Also notice Ephesians 2:1, “And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins.” Notice the word “quickened.” It means “to give life.” A person who is not converted is dead. When he receives Christ as his Saviour, he is resurrected or what the Bible calls “regenerated.”

Man is a threefold being—body, soul and spirit. The body is that which is seen by the eye and felt by the hand. The soul is that which inhabits the body and enables us to communicate and have fellowship with each other. The spirit is that which enables us to fellowship with God and to communicate with Him.

Teacher, take three little dolls of any kind. On one doll, write the word “body;” on another, the word “soul;” and on the other, the word “spirit.” Put them together and let them be man as he was created by God. In the Garden of Eden man was a threefold creature. However, when man sinned, his spirit died. Show this by taking the doll which has the word “spirit” on it and laying it down. Now man is a twofold being—a living body, a living soul, but possessing a dead spirit. This means he cannot fellowship with God.

Then show that body and soul have threescore and ten (more or less) to live. At the end of this life, the body and the soul die. At this point in the lesson take the little dolls on which are written “body” and “soul” and lay them down. Then explain to the class that there is nothing left to fellowship with God. There is nothing left to live. For that matter, the person has died physically; his soul is dead and his spirit is dead.

Then take these same three dolls and stand them up again. Show how that the spirit died when man sinned. To illustrate this, lay the doll down on which is written the word “spirit.” Then bring a soul winner to that person. Tell him how to be saved. Have him receive Christ. Then raise the doll from the prone position to the standing position, for he has been born again. This is what the new birth is all about. Now there is something that can fellowship with God. Then show how when man dies, the body and soul die. Lay down the dolls on which are written the words “body” and “soul.” This leaves the spirit standing, which means there is something that can fellowship with God! This is a vivid illustration that any child can understand as to the need of being born again.

Now go back to the first part of the illustration. Lay the spirit down and let the body and soul stand up. Dress up the body and soul and see if that will help to get the spirit back to life. Have the body and soul have a complete new outfit. Doctor it up; pretty it up; powder it up, but that does not bring the spirit to life. Using these little dolls, even the smallest child can understand how to be saved.

- II. **THE RESURRECTION OF THE BODY.** Romans 8:11, “But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.” You could take one of the dolls here and put the doll in a little box. Let this box represent a casket and show how that only the Holy Spirit can cause someone to rise from the dead. This means the only way we can rise from the dead at the first resurrection is to have the Holy Spirit, for He is the Resurrector.
- III. **THE RESURRECTION AT THE RAPTURE.** Not only does the Holy Spirit raise the dead, but it is He Who lifts us at the rapture. Read II Thessalonians 2:4-8. In verse 7, notice the words, “...only he who

now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way.” This is the Holy Spirit on earth hindering sin until the rapture. When the Christian is lifted, the Holy Spirit is lifted out of the earth. It is He Who resurrects the person at the rapture.

Teacher, take two of the dolls. Let one doll represent the old nature, the other doll represent the new nature, and show the pupils the future of the Christian. Show them death, how the old nature dies and the new nature lives. Take that doll through death, the new nature going to Heaven and the body going to the grave. Put the new nature up high and the old nature in the grave. Then tell about the rapture when the body shall rise and the spirit shall come from Heaven. Bring the two dolls back together in the air. Then let them be in the air at the Marriage of the Lamb. Then bring them back to earth for 1,000 years. Then take them up to the New Jerusalem for eternity.

You might do the same thing for the unsaved. Have one doll represent the body and one doll represent the soul. Show how when the person dies, his body goes to the grave and his soul goes to Hell to suffer. At the end of the millennium at the second resurrection, the body and soul shall be resurrected, stand before God and both shall be cast into Hell. Using these little dolls I believe you can give the pupils a graphic lesson on how to be born again and also on the future of the believer. Remind them that the secret is that the Holy Spirit comes in us to resurrect us at salvation, and it is He Who will see to every resurrection that we have.