### "THE HOPE OF THE RESURRECTION"

### **NOTES:**

Jesus didn't live a life as solely God. He took the form and weakness of humans and lived a life fully as a man. Jesus' body was the same as ours, and He dealt with physical temptations, hunger, and weaknesses, just as we do.

All of creation was affected by the fall of Adam and Eve. Their sins not only impacted them, they changed the future of humanity and the planet. The opposite of this also true: Jesus' resurrection brings us back into alignment with the original future that God created us for, to the point of healing the planet as well.

If you don't have the humanness of Jesus correct, you won't understand the resurrection correctly. In fact, our salvation is a loss if there was no resurrection—eternity is modeled after Jesus' resurrection. Just as He was resurrected bodily, so will we be. Even in our resurrected bodies, we will carry our physical attributes and scars from life.

Creation itself will also be redeemed at the resurrection. Our future hope isn't in heaven, but in the new heavens and the new earth. The earth carries within it the anticipation of this future renewal. The death, diseases, and pain that we experience on the earth is not the way that things are meant to be. This healing comes through the resurrection.

Heaven is a temporary waiting place between now and the resurrection. At the time of resurrection, there is a new heaven and a new earth (which we will live on). In our redeemed body, the effects of sin (disease, deformity, pain) will be healed, but we will still carry our physical attributes. The hope of the resurrection is the completion of our salvation.

# **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

Why is it important to understand that Jesus was a human, just like us?

What was it about Jesus' resurrection body that brought hope back to the disciples?

What does a funeral without the hope of resurrection bring about inside of people?

How does knowing that your resurrected body will have scars and physical attributes from your life today impact your view of the future?

What is the difference of your expectation between spending eternity in a mystical heaven vs. eternity on a recreated, physical, new earth?

## **VERSES**:

#### Hebrews 2:14-17

14 Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death--that is, the devil-- 15 and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. 16 For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham's descendants. 17 For this reason he had to be made like his brothers in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful

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high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people.

#### Romans 8:18-23

- 18 I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. 19 The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed. 20 For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope 21 that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God.
- 22 We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. 23 Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.