

‘JESUS AND THE RESURRECTION’.

— ACTS 17:18. —

‘Concerning the hope and resurrection of the dead I am called in question’.— Paul, Acts 23:6; 24:21.

‘And when they heard of the resurrection of the DEAD, some mocked; and others said, we will hear thee again of this matter’.—Acts 17:32.

If our wayward loved ones who died out of Christ are *already* in ‘the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone’, and the righteous dead are *already* in bliss, why do the Scriptures say, ‘The Lord knoweth how to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished’, and ‘*If there be no resurrection of the dead, then they which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished?*’—Rev. 20:15; 2 Pet. 2:9; 1 Cor.15:13-18.

If those who have ‘fallen asleep’ have *already* ‘gone to their reward’, why did the Master himself say that they should be ‘recompensed at the resurrection of the just’, when the Son of Man shall come in His glory, when *every* man shall be rewarded according to his works?—Luke 14:14; Matt. 16:27; Rev. 11:18.

If God’s faithful are to be crowned at death, why did the apostles say that their own crowns were ‘laid up’ for them until ‘the Chief Shepherd shall appear’?—2 Tim. 4:1, 8; 1 Pet. 5:4.

If the prophets and other ancient worthies were taken to heaven at death, why did Jesus say during his ministry, ‘No man hath ascended up to heaven’, and Peter at a still later date declared, ‘David is not ascended into the heavens’?—John 3:13; Acts 2:34.

If the *apostles* were to go to heaven immediately at death why did Jesus say to them before his ascension, ‘Whither I go ye cannot come’, but, ‘If I go *I will come again* and [then] receive you unto myself’?—John 13:33; 14:3.

Our message like that of the apostles is Jesus the only Redeemer, and the resurrection the blessed hope, to be obtained through faith and obedience.

Is there not a danger of getting mixed up by taking the ‘say so’ of men? And is it not our duty to demand and seek a ‘Thus saith the Lord’ for all that we accept as truth on religious subjects? And, will not the reader resolve to do this hereafter?