

# Different Understandings Arising from the Period 30-70AD

Everything we learnt in the church system either came from pulpit teaching or from the theology that “the Bible is understood from reading it at face value”. This idea of ‘face value’ reading indicates a literal interpretation of the Bible, but the proponents of it aren’t actually literalists. Instead, they pick and choose what they take literally and what they take to be allegorical.

This dual approach to Bible reading is problematic, even though it sounds logical. The problem arises in what is said to be allegorical, when it’s not obviously metaphorical. Here’s an example that is allegorical: A beast with 7 heads and with crowns on each of them, rising out of the sea, is definitely picture language. The difficulty comes with Jewish idioms and local metaphors that the NT readers/hearers easily understood back in the 1<sup>st</sup> century. This is where differences in scripture interpretation between church groups creates division, and where there’s confusion in people’s minds as to which theology is correct. For example: When Jesus stated to Peter that he’d build his *ekklesia* on a rock, was he referring to Peter, ‘the stone’, or was it the knowledge that he was the Messiah and the “Son of the Living God”?

★Mike Parsons addresses the problem of dual readings of the Bible in one of his video mentoring sessions.<sup>1</sup>

For the sake of reprogramming ourselves, let’s look at a different understanding of NT teaching in the period between Jesus’ death and the destruction of Jerusalem. This is an important time period because that’s when the end of the OC and the inauguration of the NC occurred. You will be surprised at what I provide in this article, because it doesn’t correspond with what we were taught in the charismatic and pentecostal systems. However, it is very biblical.



*These notes are a brief summary of relevant points from Michael Sullivan’s web article:*

*“The Righteous Shining Like the Sun/Son in the Kingdom – the Resurrection Failure, Future or Fulfilled in AD 70”<sup>2</sup>*

## **(1) Jesus’ Physical/Glorified Body.**

Jesus is described by Paul as the first among those raised from the dead.<sup>3</sup> As he wasn’t the first to be raised from the dead (e.g. Lazarus preceded him), the theology goes, that he must have been the first to be raised with a glorified, immortal body. This is said to be what Jesus received on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day because he was able to walk through walls. However, there’s no factual biblical evidence (statements of fact, other than inference) that his ‘new’ body was any different to his old body. After all, in his original body he was able to defy natural laws by: (1) Walking on water; (2) Disappearing in a crowd; & (3) Instantly translocating (teleporting) himself and a boat full of disciples across a lake to the shore. Without factual evidence, it’s not logical to assume that just because he could appear/disappear after his resurrection, that he had a glorified body at that time. Therefore, it doesn’t prove that we’ll have such a glorified body at the end of history just like his – that’s a theological theory, not a fact.

Actually, and logically, Jesus’ body would not have been glorified for another 40 days, at his ascension. That’s when he would have been enthroned. Later, at the feast of Pentecost, he released Holy Spirit to take his place on Earth with his people. IF he had a glorified body before his ascension, why did he have the same physical wounds that were on his original body? Theology says they were present in his glorified body as a reminder of what he suffered. That’s also a theory. It’s more logical (without having any other evidence) to surmise that it was the same body – that’s what the recorded evidence shows.

---

1 – “Mystic Mentoring Monday 22nd March 2021” [0:00-5:08] [www.youtube.com/watch?v=EaC0\\_MqGY8g](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EaC0_MqGY8g)

2 – Michael Sullivan (June 2021) “The Coming Of The "Son/Sun Of Man/Righteousness" Failure, Future Or Fulfilled In Ad 70?” [chapter 3] [fullpreterism.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/The-Coming-of-the-Sun-of-Righteousness-Shining-from-East-to-West-Failure-Future-or-Fulfilled-in-AD-70.docx](https://fullpreterism.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/The-Coming-of-the-Sun-of-Righteousness-Shining-from-East-to-West-Failure-Future-or-Fulfilled-in-AD-70.docx)

3 – The first-fruit or first-born (Colossians 1:18)

However, if his glorified body did retain its wounds, does that mean the glorified bodies we're said to get will also keep the wounds and disfigurements that our current bodies have? See the difficulty? See why there's a need for bible teachers to appeal to spiritual reasons for the wounds?

## **(2) Jesus Overcame Spiritual Death**

So, Jesus wasn't the first<sup>4</sup> to be raised from the dead. Instead, he was the first to overcome covenantal sin with its accompanying death. This is the spiritual 'death' which came from Adam when he was separated (excommunicated) from Father's family. Because of sin, Adam couldn't continue to have permanent life in Father's presence because that would've been an unholy combination. What Jesus did with his sacrificial death was to make himself sin for us<sup>5</sup> so that we would be forever righteous<sup>6</sup>. He actually, voluntarily took upon himself the full curse of the separation from Father of all humanity, for all time. That meant we could come back into Father's family because we're no longer unholy, according to the holiness rules he set up, even though we are never perfectly righteous in our earthly behaviour. At his *parousia* (his 'second coming') in AD 70, this was released to everyone, leading to the restoration of the righteous dead (OC & NC) and the righteous living, from then on.

His resurrection on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day was only as sign of a spiritual reality. It proved to everyone who saw him or heard about it that he was the one who conquered the curse of sin/death/separation that came from The Fall. He never came to conquer physical death. We know that because the saints<sup>7</sup> have been dying since his resurrection. That confirms his teaching, that those who believe in him would never die,<sup>8</sup> was referring to a spiritual death. That is, they would not miss out on real Kingdom spiritual life and they would not be separated from Father's family.

This restoration of genuine spiritual life was made available to everyone, past, present and future. Everyone is a descendant of Adam, so we're all born spiritually 'dead' and separated from the Trinity by our sin nature.<sup>9</sup> A man (Jesus of Nazareth) paid the price for our sin nature, so everyone has access to genuine spiritual life – all they have to do is to genuinely believe. That's because the spiritual law works like this: [1] Mankind was put in dominion of the Earth as Father's sons, but a man gave it away to Satan; [2] A man (Jesus of Nazareth) sacrificed himself, according to the existing spiritual laws, and so reclaimed dominion for all humanity; & [3] The defeat of sin allows us to become sons again and our dominion as sons can now be fully implemented.

## **(3) Jesus' Imminent Appearance in 70AD**

Paul taught about Jesus' return (*parousia*)<sup>10</sup>:

**1 Corinthians 15:23-25** (TPT) *But each one in his proper order: Christ, the firstfruits, then those who belong to Christ in his presence.<sup>11</sup> Then the final stage of completion comes, when he will bring to an end every other rulership, authority, and power, and he will hand over his kingdom to Father God. Until then he is destined to reign<sup>12</sup> as King until all hostility has been subdued and placed under his feet.*

When was he installed as King? Answer: When he ascended to his throne.

What's he been doing in the meantime, before the end of history? He's been subduing all hostility to Heaven's perfection, in tandem with us, until everything is complete and restored.

4 – Colossians 1:18

5 – 2 Corinthians 5:21

6 – 2 Corinthians 5:21

7 – The NT word for a believer. (see Romans 1:7) [Don't confuse it with the RC version of the term]

8 – John 8:51; 11:25-26

9 – 1 Corinthians 15:21-22

10 – 1 Corinthians 15:23

11 – Or 'at his appearance' [classic.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+15%3A23-25&version=TPT#fen-TPT-10059a](http://classic.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+15%3A23-25&version=TPT#fen-TPT-10059a)

12 – As translated from the Aramaic

Jesus said his return would happen during the time of “this generation”<sup>13</sup>. That means he returned sometime between 30AD & 70AD. This is consistent with Daniel’s “time of the end”<sup>14</sup> (**not ‘the end of time’**) when the resurrection would occur at the end of 3½ years<sup>15</sup> “when the power of the holy people would be completely shattered”<sup>16</sup>. This happened with Jerusalem’s destruction during the Roman siege between 67AD & 70AD – it was a 3½-year period.

Paul stated the same imminency:

**2 Timothy 4:1** (YLT<sup>17</sup>) – *I do fully testify, then, before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who is **about to judge** living and dead **at his manifestation** and his [Kingdom] reign...*

**2 Timothy 4:1** (BLB<sup>18</sup>) – *I earnestly declare before God and Christ Jesus, the One being **about to judge** the living and the dead, and by **His appearing and His kingdom**...*

**2 Timothy 4:1** (LSV<sup>19</sup>) – *I fully testify, then, before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who is **about to judge** [the] living and dead **at His appearing and His Kingdom**...*

#### **(4) The Judgement Occurred in 70AD**

At his *parousia* in AD 70, he came as Judge. See the 3 references above: “about to judge”.

That means Jesus has already come, and he’s already judged. This is logical in regard to Revelation which was a letter to the 1<sup>st</sup> century believers concerning the current and impending spiritual situations that would manifest in the natural.

#### **(5) The Resurrection of the Dead Occurred in 70AD**

**\*\*\*\*Read about it in my article “13-The Resurrection of the Dead”<sup>20</sup>\*\*\*\***



These explanations are different theologies to the ones we’ve received in the evangelical, charismatic and pentecostal systems. They are different because they’re not the understandings that were formulated as orthodox teaching by the religious system that developed out of the 1<sup>st</sup> century movement of ‘The Way’.

Remember, orthodoxy<sup>21</sup> was put in place by the Roman Catholic organisation in the 4<sup>th</sup> century. All other beliefs that varied from what they had settled on (called ‘orthodox’), through theological and Christian ‘political’ debate, was forcefully eliminated. Since then, few tenets of belief have changed. Some were eliminated in the Protestant Reformation, while others have re-emerged as truths and were restored. However, there are ‘mountains’ of error that we still need to remove because they were set in place from human minds, not from blueprints out of Heaven. This is why we’re being reprogrammed by our King, so we’re freely able to move forward with him, having the same understandings. **Watch out!** There’s a lot more we believe that needs to be changed. That’s the reason we have to be prepared to throw out everything we believe, so we can be retaught his truths.<sup>22</sup>

13 – Matthew 13:39-43; 24:27-34, 37

14 – Daniel 12:4

15 – Daniel 12:7

16 – Daniel 12:7

17 – Young’s Literal Translation [classic.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2%20Timothy%204:1-2&version=YLT](http://classic.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2%20Timothy%204:1-2&version=YLT)

18 – The Blue Letter Bible literal translation [literalbible.com/blb.pdf](http://literalbible.com/blb.pdf) [Free download]

19 – The Literal Standard Version [read.lsvbible.com](http://read.lsvbible.com) [Read free online]

20 – [canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/What-is-Salvation13.pdf](http://canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/What-is-Salvation13.pdf)

21 – i.e. Knowledge and activities approved by the Roman Catholic institution. (Read more about it here: “How Religion Deviates Us from Heaven’s Plans” [canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/How-Religion-Deviates-Us-from-Heavens-Plans.pdf](http://canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/How-Religion-Deviates-Us-from-Heavens-Plans.pdf) )

22 – SEE: [canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/43-Do-not-expect-an-easy-way-out.pdf](http://canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/43-Do-not-expect-an-easy-way-out.pdf)

Whether or not you want to believe these 5 understandings is up to you. I present them for your consideration as they are valid positions if one were to put aside their Futurist Eschatology (or any other eschatology for that matter).

Laurence

18-4-2021

[presented on 5-9-2021]

([www.CanberraForerunners.org](http://www.CanberraForerunners.org))

COPYRIGHT

*This document is free to copy, republish and distribute, but only 'as is'. It is free to quote from at length.*

*All Canberra Forerunners' documents are licensed under*

*Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs 3.0 Unported License*

*Quotes are the copyright of their authors.*

*Free graphics are from [www.clker.com](http://www.clker.com) & free photos are from [commons.wikimedia.org](http://commons.wikimedia.org) unless otherwise credited.*

(Readers will need to look up for themselves any scriptures alluded to in this document)