THE FIRST RESURRECTION. Rev.20,6

Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection; over such the second death hath no power. But they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years. Rev.20,14 The second death is in the lake of fire. Verse 15 And whosoever was not found written in the book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.

Those who have ~~their~~ part in the first resurrection, shall priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years. 1 Pe.2,5 Ye also as lively stones are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

What sacrifices are we to offer? Ro.12,1-2 I beseech you therefore brethren by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God which is your reasonable service. And be ~~ne~~ not confirmed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind. That ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable will of God.

When we go through the likeness of the death, burial and resurrection of Christ, as recorded in Ro.6,3-6 we are raised to walk a new life. Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were ~~bapti~~ tized into His death? Therefore we are buried with Him by baptism into death, that like as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also we should walk in newness of life. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of His death, we shall be also in the likeness of His resurrection. Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be destroyed. --Col.2,13 Buried with Him in Baptism, wherein also ye are risen with Him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised Him from the dead. --According to the above scriptures, We have buried the sinful man, arisen to walk a new life, a Spiritual life, been renewed in the Spirit of our minds, a Spiritual resurrection. Dead to sin, alive unto God. We read in Ro.6,3 That we are baptized into Jesus Christ. Is there any other way to enter Christ? --2 Cor 5,17 Therefore if a man be in Christ he is a new creature; old things have passed away, all things are become new. --We also read Eph.2,1 And you hath He quickened, (made alive Spiritually alive) who were dead in trespasses and sins. Verse 5 Even when ye were dead in sins, 6 And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. --How did they get into Christ? -For as many of you as have baptised into Christ, have put on Christ. Col.3,1 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, Where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Indeed Ro.6,11 Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. 12 Let not sin therefore reign in your bodies, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. Ro.8,13 For if ye live after the flesh ye shall die: But if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live. Gal.5,19 Now the works of the ~~fl~~ flesh are manifest, which are these; adultry, fornication, uncleanness, lacciousness, idolotry, witchcraft, murders, drunkenness, revellings, hatred, variance, emulation, wrath strife, sedition, heredies and such like, of the which I tell you before, as I have told you in time past, that they that do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

A CHANGE TAKES PLACE. Col.3,12 Put on therefore as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercy, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, long suffering; forbearing oneanother, and forgiving oneanother: even as Christ forgave you, so also do you. 14 And above all things put on Charity, which is the bond of perfectness. 15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which ye are called in one body, and be ye thankful. 16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; Teaching and admonishing oneanother in hymns, and psalms and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts unto the Lord. 17 And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks unto God and the Father by Him.

Is it not evident from the above scriptures, that a person is raised from a life of sin, into the Life that is in Christ Jesus? A spiritual life. A life of Righteousness in Christ Jesus. And also to let His word rule in our bodies, and desires, Also persuading others to be ruled by His word. The apostles are now reigning with Him when we are governed by the words of Christ which they have passed on to us through the scriptures. As Paul says in 1 Cor.14,37 If any man think himself to be a prophet or Spiritual, let him acknowledge, that the things that I write unto you are the commandments of God. --Also Paul exhorting the Elders Acts 20,28 Take heed unto thyself, and unto the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God which He hath ~~made=you~~ purchased with His own blood. 1 Pe.5,2 Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight. 1 Tim.5,17 Let the elders that rule well be ~~co~~ counted worthy of double honour. Does not this prove that some are ruled and governed by Gods word when they submit to His will? He.2,1-4 Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard lest at any time we should let them slip. --the words spoken by Christ and confirmed unto us by the apostles. J.H.Lackey Church of Christ.