



Laws of Nature Prove the Resurrection of the Dead

Laws of nature

There are laws or principles that sit above the ordinary laws of nature. Some of these laws seem to undergird truth as we Christians know truth. We will discuss laws of nature, such as the first and second law of thermodynamics, and Newton's third law.

The first law of thermodynamics states that energy can be transformed (changed from one form to another), but it cannot be created nor destroyed. Energy can only be converted from one form into another form but not destroyed.

The second law of thermodynamics is an expression of the universal principle of increasing entropy, "mixed upness", "useless", "stray", or "lost" energy, "chaos".

Newton's third law of reciprocal actions says, for a force there is always an equal and opposite reaction.

Resurrection of the Dead

These principles are known to most people, but have you ever thought of them in relationship to the Resurrection of the Dead?

Early Christians

Early Christians believed in the Resurrection, Justin Martyr, in the 2nd Century, wrote "Seeing as ... the Saviour in the whole Gospel shows that there is salvation for the flesh, why do we any longer endure those unbelieving and dangerous arguments, and fail to see that we are retrograding when we listen to such an argument as this: that the soul is immortal, but the body mortal, and incapable of being revived? For this we used to hear from Pythagoras and Plato, even before we learned the truth". And according to (Mat 12:42-43) the New Testament teaches the Resurrection, "The men of Nineveh shall rise in judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: because they repented at the preaching of Jonas; and, behold, a greater than Jonas is here. The queen of the south shall rise up in the judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it"

How these Laws Prove the Resurrection of the Dead

Let's restate the laws or principles of the natural world in light of the Resurrection. If energy can only be converted from one form into another form but cannot be destroyed, that everything increases toward entropy (chaos), and for every force there is always an equal and opposite reaction (death – life again) then I suggest that these laws prove the Resurrection of the Dead. You might ask, how so?

Well, if energy cannot be destroyed then neither can the "soul" be destroyed, for the "soul" is the "energy" of "life-force" of the body, and if everything in this life increases toward entropy (chaos), then the opposite reaction would be order coming from chaos bringing about the "order" (opposite of chaos) of judgment and the equal and opposite reaction of death bringing about "Life" the rebirth of the soul and body in an ordered body (spiritual) to face the greatest order and from whom all order springs – God!

Book of Corinthians

The writer of the Book of Corinthians describes this better and also gives us a glimpse of "beyond the curtain".

(1Cr 15:35-44) But someone may ask, "How will the dead be raised? What kind of bodies will they have?" What a foolish question! When you put a seed into the ground, it doesn't grow into a plant unless it dies first. And what you put in the ground is not the plant that will grow, but only a dry little seed of wheat or whatever it is you are planting. Then God gives it a new body—just the kind he wants it to have. A different kind of plant grows from each kind of seed.

And just as there are different kinds of seeds and plants, so also there are different kinds of flesh—whether of humans, animals, birds, or fish. There are bodies in the heavens, and there are bodies on earth. The glory of the heavenly bodies is different from the beauty of the earthly bodies. The sun has one kind of glory, while the moon and stars each have another kind. And even the stars differ from each other in their beauty and brightness. It is the same way for the resurrection of the dead. Our earthly bodies which die and decay will be different when they are resurrected, for when they are resurrected they will never die. Our bodies now disappoint us, but when they are raised, they will be full of glory. They are weak now, but when they are raised, they will be full of power. They are natural human bodies now, but when they are raised, they will be spiritual bodies. For just as there are natural bodies, so also there are spiritual bodies.

Seed - Body

Put a seed into the ground – death of earthly body, decay, total finished entropy (chaos)

What you put in the ground – mortal seed body, weak, natural human bodies

Plant-seed that will grow – immortal body, never dies

Kind – different as illustrated from flesh, bodies in the heavens, bodies on earth

Differs – in glory from each other but full of power and a spiritual body

Stars - Differ

Stars differ from each other in their beauty and brightness. It is the same way for the resurrection of the dead – Christians will differ in their “glory, beauty, and brightness in the Resurrection from one another”.

(Dan 12:3) And they that are wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament, and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.

Christians have Differing Glories in the Resurrection

Daniel says, they that turn many to righteousness will shine as the stars but they that are wise only as the firmament. This teaches in my opinion a differing glory among the partakers of the resurrection. If this glory is based upon converting many to righteousness, then I would suspect that there are other criteria causing other differing glories. I do not think that scripture teaches, nor is it wise to assume, that heaven is some kind of socialistic place, where everyone, regardless of the seed which is planted in the ground, all grows in the resurrection to the same glory. This scripture in Corinthians, as well as the principles of life, teach us as an example, “you get out of something what you put in it”. Are there not scriptures which teach storing up your treasures in heaven? This is accomplished by the seed of your character which is planted in the ground. The good become gooder, the bright become brighter, as the seed of our character (soul) are planted in the ground. This is a great mystery of scripture, but we take with us the character that we have become and it is magnified in the resurrection and conversely the bad become badder, the worst become worse, therefore, hence the lake of fire.

Let's take for illustrative purposes an acorn. An acorn falls from an oak tree. It is green. It then dies and through a process of germination comes to life again in the soil. This new life, we call an oak tree, which sometimes grows to massive proportions, with tall outstretched branches, giving the impetuous to poetry, for you see the mature oak tree has no resemblance to the dead acorn from which its life sprung. Without the understanding of the process, one could not look at a dead acorn and know that from that death a huge oak tree would arise.

We determine in this life, what the substance of “our acorn” will be. The substance of our acorn will be the character that we build helped by The Holy Spirit. This character can be glimpsed on this side of the veil, as seen through the Fruit of The Spirit in our lives. When this acorn of our character is planted in the ground, it is raised in the resurrection as drastically different as the huge oak tree is from the acorn from which it sprang.

This body is generally referred to as the glorified body. This body is immortal, unchangeable, and eternal like Christ’s body. A few notable things; Christ was able to walk through a wall; we will be able to also walk through walls, transcending matter. Christ walked after his resurrection with one of the disciples and the disciple did not know who he was until Christ revealed Himself. This indicates that the resurrection body is able to appear as the person chooses. Are you fat now? Do you want to be skinny? Are you short? Do you want to be tall? How will you look in the resurrection-however you want to! You will be able to eat, although it is not required for subsistence. Remember Jesus by the seashore with the disciples? It appears he ate fish after his resurrection, but if that does not convince you, why have a marriage supper of The Lamb if you can’t eat it? (Revelations 19:7)

Let’s prick your thinking just a moment. Jesus walking through the wall, as I have already said, indicates that He is not subject to the laws of nature which we have previously talked about. So therefore, how fast can the resurrection body travel? It obviously is not subject to any of the laws we are familiar with. Just to hazard a guess, I would say the resurrection body, immortal, eternal, travels at the speed of thought. Wherever you want to be, you can be there, as fast as you think about wanting to be there. What will we be doing in eternity? See other “e books” on eternity on our site.

Time is linear

We must also make a statement about time. Time is ⁱⁱlinear. To say that time is linear is to say that time moves from event to event in a line.

Physical processes known to science such as the ⁱⁱⁱSecond Law of Thermodynamics, which we have already discussed, also requires that time move from the past through the present and into the future - irreversibly. "Linear," "one-dimensional" time is the time frame of the physics of the macroscopic world, and the observations of the physical world undergird the statement - time is linear.

No Second Chance

That simply put, means after death, judgment. The only event, concerning the physical body after death, is the Resurrection of the Dead and Judgment. Time moving only in one direction means no going back and working on it again – no reincarnation, sorry if you thought there was a second chance there isn't.

You had better get it right the first time! Call out to Jesus! He will hear you...

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ⁱ The Resurrection of the Dead is argued in more detail in the Deuterocanonical books of Enoch, Jubilees, Apocalypse of Baruch, 2 Esdras and the Maccabees. Also, in great detail in the Book of Revelation.

ⁱⁱ In general, the Judaeo-Christian concept, based on the Bible, is that time is linear, defined chiefly in terms of a line. God is outside of time. He is, "**...the high and lofty one, who inhabits eternity.**" (Isaiah 57:15)

ⁱⁱⁱ The Second Law can be stated in several forms, but basically it refers to the tendency of things to rot, rust, decay and fall apart with the passage of time. As we use energy, the total amount of available energy available to do additional work decreases inexorably. Orderly systems proceed to break-down in the direction of chaos, and the "information content" of things decreases with the passage of time.