

# ESCHATOLOGY- ORTHODOX AND HETERODOX

**(A) Chiliasm** is a teaching that Christ will reign for a literal 1000 years on earth after his second coming. Chiliasm was condemned at the [Second](#) Ecumenical Council in 381 AD with the phrase "whose kingdom shall have no end" in the revised and final form of the Nicene Creed that we have and use today. **(Ref: Revelation 20)**

When His begins there will be **NO INTERRUPTIONS. NO TWO RESURRECTIONS. NO TWO SECOND COMINGS AND JUDGEMENTS (the righteous and sinners) separated by a literal millennial reign of Christ as Protestant sectarians suppose.**

## **Excursus - Numerology in Revelation**

- 7 (totality of perfection); 3.5 (broken 7, in between, incomplete, often a time of persecution); 12 (perfection of God's rule); 1,000 (immensity, fullness of quantity); 144,000 (completeness of the elect =  $12 \times 12 \times 1,000$ ).
- error of Jehovah's Witnesses ....(why Revelation is not read in public worship and its late acceptance into the Canon in parts of the Christian East)

## **Countering the Heterodox Confusion of Two's!**

(1) The Orthodox confess that the devil is defeated twice, at the Cross and finally at the end of the world by being thrown into the lake of fire.

*The Orthodox confess "twice resurrected" as follows:-*

(2) A first SACRAMENTAL spiritual resurrection = baptismal regeneration (which most Protestants do not believe in), ie., resurrection NOW in baptism through repentance.

*(See the biblical reference texts that follow)*

(3) A Second and Final Physical Resurrection in the Last Day when ALL shall be raised and judged by the Love, ACCORDING TO THEIR OWN CHOICES.

## **Resurrected in Baptism (Colossians 2:12)**

<sup>12</sup> buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.




## Raised with Christ (Colossians 3:1-4)

If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup>Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. <sup>3</sup>For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup>When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

## Raised Us Up Together (Ephesians 2:4-7)

<sup>4</sup>But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, <sup>5</sup>even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), <sup>6</sup>and raised *us* up together, and made *us* sit together in the heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup>that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in *His* kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

## Walk in Light (Ephesians 5:14)

<sup>8</sup>For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light <sup>9</sup>(for the fruit of the  Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), <sup>10</sup>finding out what is acceptable to the Lord. <sup>11</sup>And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather  expose them. <sup>12</sup>For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret. <sup>13</sup>But all things that are  exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light. <sup>14</sup>Therefore He says:

“Awake, you who sleep,  
Arise from the dead,  
And Christ will give you light.”

**Full explanation here from an excellent article by Fr Michael Pomazansky: -**

<http://orthochristian.com/86555.html>

## The Rapture

Go here for the Orthodox Church's teaching on the so-called "rapture."

<https://www.saintsophias.org/orthodox-christian-teaching-on-the-rapture-is-the-rapture-in-the-bible.html>



“The most basic version of Rapture doctrine goes something like this:

When the end of the world is approaching, Jesus will appear in the sky and hover there. All true believers will then be ‘raptured’ up into the air to follow Jesus back to heaven.”

—Fr. Andrew Stephen Damick, *Orthodoxy and Heterodoxy* (2017), p. 185.

# THE NEW CREATION ASPECT OF RESURRECTION

*Reference Texts: - Isaiah 65:17-25; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Galatians 6:15; Ezekiel 47:1-12; Revelation 21 and Revelation 22:1-5*

## **What is the New Creation?**

- (1) **Personal** – spiritual regeneration by repentance, baptism, illumination and union with God (deification / theosis), glorification).
- (2) **Universal** – the realisation of the Messianic age prophesied in Isaiah, transformed in its fullness into an eschatological hope – hence the NEW Jerusalem in Revelation 21 and 22 (cf. also Ezekiel 47:1-12)

We note that in the Last Days the righteous will be clothed with new spiritual bodies, exactly like that of Christ himself (1 Corinthians 15).

... The New Creation will not only consist of the righteous but the DWELLINGS of the righteous (cf. John 14:1-3)

... The Cosmos itself will be transformed (Revelation 21:1)

The life of the soul between death and the Eschaton is a life in God BUT it cannot be a human and cosmic life in all its fulness until the New Creation dawns and the righteous are clothed in new bodies.