

am intending more to present the problem to you, than to try to give you any dogmatic statement about it. But I don't think that there is something, at least that we can get quite definitely. In I Cor. 15 we have the great chapter about the resurrection of the dead, as you know, and in this chapter about the resurrection of the dead we read in v.20, "But now is Christ risen from the dead and become the firstfruits of them that slept." What is the "Firstfruits"? Does not that mean there is going to be more resurrection? And this is the first one? This is the first fruits of them that slept. All right, then we have something that has happened, and Paul tells ~~the~~ us there are going to be other similar things happen. It is like the sprouting of grain, the coming up, the first ones come up. The resurrection of Christ is to be followed by other resurrections. For, since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, but even so in Christ, all who are in Christ shall be made alive. But every man in his own order. Christ is the firstfruits, and afterwards all other people are raised, both the good and the evil. Is that ~~not~~ what it says?

It doesn't does it? It says that the word, They that are Christ's at His coming, in other words, this would surely be seen to suggest a partial resurrection, wouldn't it? A resurrection of Christians, rather than a resurrection of all people. It would seem to suggest that. Now, the fact that you say Christ first, and afterward they that are Christ's at His ~~coming~~ coming, does not mean to say, it may not be that at His coming all arise, including those who are Christ's. But that is certainly not the most obvious, and natural interpretation. All he says here is that the Christians are to rise when Christ comes. Well, now, what else is there. Then comes the end. When is the end coming? When does the end come? Does the end come at the interim, when they are Christ's at His coming arise? Is that what it means? Or does it mean to have the resurrection of the just, and then, some time after you have the end, or you might ~~say~~ say, somebody in the time of Julius Cesar might have said, There is going to be a new country discovered across the sea, and there is going to be a new nation established in it, and then this new nation is going to send troops over which will decide a great war in Europe.....end of D 39