

# The Eschatological Meaning of Jesus' Resurrection (PhD dissertation)

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## *Abstract:*

The dissertation examines the biblical concept of the resurrection of Jesus. In particular biblical texts, it examines its meaning and how it relates to the last things of man, the world and its history. It traces where the resurrection of Jesus is mentioned in the New Testament and subjects the prominent passages to detailed exegetical analysis. To be able to read the biblical discourse on the resurrection in the appropriate cultural-religious context, it also provides an overview beforehand of how it is anchored in Old Testament ideas about human post-mortem existence and the life-giving power of God. Related but distinct ideas of contemporary paganism are also explored. The work points out significant or recurring moments in the texts it interprets. In a final reflection, it assesses their significance, puts them in context, and shows that the concepts of the resurrection of Jesus and the resurrection of all believers are related to the Old Testament hope of redeeming God, working on behalf of man in all circumstances. It especially points to the motif of exercising his power, in which the study finds the basis for the eschatology of Jesus' resurrection. It shows that in the eschatological implications of Jesus' resurrection, there is fully developed what the exercise of redemptive and creative power in the Old Testament was only moving towards. The study provides a wide-ranging reflection on the New Testament discourse on the resurrection of Jesus that is not limited only to accounts in which this resurrection is explicitly mentioned; it also examines the passages in which it is referred to in figurative or metaphorical ways. The concept of the resurrection is introduced as an imaginative construct, not always easy to grasp, but one that is nonetheless crucial to human hope and New Testament theology in general.