

ALL THE ELECT RAISED TO LIFE

"And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day" (John 6:39).

At the last day---"All that are in the graves (the elect as well as the non-elect) shall hear his voice, and shall come forth" (John 5:28-29), but only those who have "done good" (the elect) shall come forth "unto the resurrection of life." And although they are described as "they that have *done* good," it does not say that they *are* good, or that they have *become* good, and it is still a case that they have a "vile body" (Philippians 3:21) which must be changed by the Lord before they can enter into His eternal presence. They must be "fashioned like unto his glorious body" before they can enter the resplendent glory of heaven.

From all eternity (Isa. 53:10, John 17:6 & Rom. 8:30) God did give His Son a people to be His seed, and to be redeemed, called, justified, and sanctified in time, and finally glorified by Him. It is the will of the Father *that He not lose any of these*, but raise them up again at the last day. In order then for even one of them *not* to be raised up, the eternal will and purpose of God would have to be overthrown and frustrated. This cannot be, for "he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay His hand..." (Dan. 4:35). Moreover our Lord says, "All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out." And He also gives the positive assurance with regard to each of those who have everlasting life that *He will raise them up at the last day.*" He gives eternal life "to as many" as His Father gave Him (John 17:2). *All* of them receive it. He does not fail in a single instance. No child of grace can be finally and eternally lost. They may sometimes wonder in darkness and gloom here on earth, but they can *never* be plucked out of His hand and eternally lost.

"What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who *can* be against us?" (Rom. 8:31).

---Elder Ralph Harris