



THE TRUTH ABOUT

THE RESURRECTION

1 Corinthians 15:12-22 KJV

[12] Now if Christ be preached that he rose from the dead, how say some among you that there is no resurrection of the dead? [13] But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen: [14] And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain. [15] Yea, and we are found false witnesses of God; because we have testified of God that he raised up Christ: whom he raised not up, if so be that the dead rise not. [16] For if the dead rise not, then is not Christ raised: [17] And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins. [18] Then they also which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished. [19] If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable. [20] But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept. [21] For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. [22] For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

THE PLAN

GOD'S RESURRECTION PLAN FOR US

1. A personal belief in the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

John 6:39 KJV

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.

2. God's resurrection plan involves order:

a. The resurrection of Jesus

Matthew 28:5-6 KJV

[5] And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. [6] He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.

b. Those who are in Him

John 11:25 KJV

Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:

c. The resurrection of non-believers to judgement

John 5:29 KJV

And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.

3. God's resurrection plan includes a new body.

Romans 6:5 KJV

For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection:

4. God's resurrection plan includes total victory over death.

Romans 6:9 KJV

Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him.

5. God's resurrection plan is a powerful motivation for service.

Mark 16:15 KJV

And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

THE BELIEF

WHAT WE BELIEVE BECAUSE OF THE RESURRECTION

1. Our soul does not die, instead, we **LIVE FOREVER**.
2. **HEAVEN** exists and is where we will spend eternity.
3. The **CERTAINTY** of our salvation through Jesus.
4. The **ASSURANCE** our salvation can never be taken away.
5. **GRACE** is ours through Christ even though we don't deserve it.
6. We will **SEE THOSE WHO'VE GONE BEFORE US**.

What's different about our life because of the resurrection?

- *A holy life, not a sinless life.*

Romans 8:2 KJV

For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

What is your message as a believer?

- *We should be a beacon to those around us.*

Matthew 5:16 KJV

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

When have you told another about the saving grace of Jesus?

- *We have the power to serve him through the Holy Spirit that now dwells within us.*

John 14:26 KJV

But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

Romans 1:16 KJV

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

What kind of friendship do you have with Jesus?

- *Jesus paid the ultimate price for our sins out of his love for us.*

John 15:13 KJV

Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

THE TRUTH

Romans 10:9 KJV

That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

1 Corinthians 15:12-20 KJV

[12] Now if Christ be preached that he rose from the dead, how say some among you that there is no resurrection of the dead? [13] But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen: [14] And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain. [15] Yea, and we are found false witnesses of God; because we have testified of God that he raised up Christ: whom he raised not up, if so be that the dead rise not. [16] For if the dead rise not, then is not Christ raised: [17] And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins. [18] Then they also which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished. [19] If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable. [20] But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept.

PAUL LISTS 7 CONSEQUENCES OF DENYING CHRIST HAS RISEN FROM THE DEAD:

1. Christ Would Not be Risen

The people who wanted Jesus crucified would not have been so cavalier about making sure he was permanently gone. They made sure he was dead and buried.

2. The Preaching of the Gospel Would be Vain and Meaningless

The scripture is fundamentally based on the resurrection of Jesus. If the resurrection is false, the ENTIRE rest of the gospel has no meaning and ultimately we have no hope either.

3. Faith Would be Meaningless

All the promises in scripture are lies if the resurrection is false. Any faith, scripturally or other is absolutely meaningless.

4. All Witnesses and Preachers of the Resurrection Would be Liars

If there is no Jesus, then there is only an empty cry. The people who would say otherwise are robbing followers of any hope they have in the future. There is no other evil act worse than destroying a person's future.

5. We Would All Still be in Our Sins

If we remain in our sins without any hope of cleansing our souls and removing the sin, we also remain separated from Holy God. We could never be forgiven.

6. All Former Believers Would Have Perished

People remain in the grave after death, death becomes the absolute worst thing imaginable because it means the end of a person's life entirely.

7. Christians Would be the Most Miserable, Unhappy People on Earth

Imagine wasting your whole life trying to live a Godly life only to find out it was all a lie and there is no reward for the effort.

THE INSIGHT

RIGHT THINKING ABOUT DEATH AND RESURRECTION

Why Do Christians Die?

- *Because in a physical world there is an end to all things. A Christian is saved but not necessarily safe from the evil of a fallen world.*
- *Our obedience to God is more important than preserving our life.*
- *God saves the Christian and leaves him on earth to serve as a testimony.*

To wonder about our own Death and the Death of Others?

- *It's normal to be sad when a Christian friend dies, even though we know they are in heaven.*
- *The soul of the believer is in the presence of the Lord immediately upon his death.*

ABSENT FROM THE BODY, PRESENT WITH THE LORD.

Nothing accomplished in this life, no matter how great or monumental, will have any meaning if there is no ultimate meaning to life. Having hope in Christ for all eternity gives meaning and purpose to life. Jesus is the only hope we have to be in the presence of God for all eternity.

2 Corinthians 5:8 KJV

We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 KJV

[13] But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. [14] For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. [15] For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. [16] For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: [17] Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. [18] Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

OUR NEW HOME

Philippians 3:20-21 KJV

[20] For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: [21] Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.

OUR POSITION: Citizens of Heaven

1. *Names are recorded in Heaven.*
2. *Jesus is Lord in Heaven.*
3. *Fellow saints.*
4. *Inheritance there.*
5. *Reward there / treasure.*

OUR PROMISE: Bodily Resurrection

1. *We will be in the presence of Jesus, we will be like Christ.*
2. *Jesus rose again, so must we in order to be like Christ.*

OUR PORTRAIT: Jesus

3. *Humble body.*
4. *Conformed to the character of Christ.*
5. *Conformed to the image of Christ.*
6. *Will not be subject to breaking down or aging.*
7. *Equipped COMPLETELY for God's purpose in eternity.*

THE HOPE

REASONS TO REJOICE IN CHRIST'S RESURRECTION

1. *Jesus is alive, unique to a Christian.*
2. *Our assurance of life after death.*
3. *We will live forever with him.*
4. *Our comfort in the presence of death*
5. *Jesus has forgiven our sins and we are eternally secure.*
6. *Our faithfulness to Him for His promise*
7. *We will experience a bodily resurrection.*
8. *Our anticipation of a heavenly home*
9. *Heaven is our eternal home.*
10. *We have a definite purpose in life.*