



ADDRESSING THE ISSUES

"The Main Issue—Resurrection" 1 Corinthians 15:1-58

No. 2563

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The Corinthians were skeptical about the resurrection of the dead. But Paul insisted Christianity hinges on the Resurrection of Christ. It's the main issue!

I. Skeptical About Resurrection. vv. 1-19

- A. The Christian doctrine of Resurrection. vv. 1-11
 - 1. The Gospel brings salvation if held firmly. vv. 1-2
 - 2. The Gospel is based on historical events. vv. 3-11
 - a. Christ died. v. 3
 - b. Christ was buried. v. 4a.
 - c. Christ was resurrected. v. 4b
 - d. Eyewitnesses. vv. 5-10
 - 3. This was what has been historically preached and believed. v. 11
- B. The Corinthian denial of resurrection. vv. 12-19
 - 1. The reason for the denial.
 - a. Platonic concepts.
 - b. Rational objections.
 - c. Spiritualizing—resurrection already over—2 Timothy 2:18?
 - 2. The ramifications of the denial. If there is no resurrection, then:
 - a. Jesus is dead. v. 13
 - b. Preaching is "empty." v. 14a
 - c. Faith is baseless. v. 14b
 - d. Christianity is false. vv. 15-16
 - e. No forgiveness. v. 17
 - f. Dead have perished. v. 18
 - g. Believers are pathetic—their hope is foundationless. v. 19

II. Significance of Resurrection. vv. 20-34

- A. The ultimate significance—the restoration of God's rule. vv. 20-28
 - 1. The entrance of death.
 - 2. The pervasiveness of death.
 - 3. The death of death.
 - 4. The offer of life.
 - 5. The defeat of enemies—the last one is death.
- B. The immediate significance—new standards of behavior. vv. 29-34

III. Specifics of Resurrection. vv. 35-58

- A. Details of resurrection bodies. vv. 35-50
 - 1. The same but different—like seeds. vv. 35-41
 - 2. "Sown" one way—raised another. vv. 42-49
- B. Details of resurrection events. vv. 51-57
 - 1. Not all believers will die before Christ returns.
 - 2. All believers will be changed when He returns.
 - 3. Death will be ultimately defeated, so let's give thanks!
- C. Details of resurrection attitudes. v. 58
 - 1. Steadfastness.
 - 2. Stability.
 - 3. Wholeheartedness.
 - 4. Tirelessness.
 - 5. Confidence.