

**“The Proof Of The Resurrection”
1 Corinthians 15:3-8
Easter Morning Services April 16, 2017**

Job asks this question in Job 14:14 – “If a man dies, will he live again?”

“Christianity is the first to teach the resurrection of the body to eternal life.” (Not just spiritual, but a new physical body!)

For the “Genuine Believer”, the only reliable source for truth and life is the Bible! John 17:17

The Book of 1 Corinthians confronts Disorder in the Church. The believers had strayed from Doctrine, God’s Truth. 1 Corinthians 15:12

1 Corinthians 15 is called “The Hope Chapter”, a chapter dedicated entirely to the subject of the Resurrection.

If Jesus Christ is alive, we have a Gospel. If Jesus is not alive, then the whole Christian faith crashes and burns.

2 Corinthians 5:17

The Thought Of The Passage: The Resurrection Is The Heart Of The Gospel Message, Which Is Proven By Indisputable Evidence.

1. Verses 3-4 – The Resurrection Is The Gospel Truth

2. Verses 5-8 – The Resurrection Is Indisputable Truth

1. Verses 3-4 – The Resurrection Is The Gospel Truth:

1 Corinthians 15:3

“For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received,” – The Context is Paul has just covered 1 Corinthians 12-14 on the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Paul now prioritizes all that he has been saying and focuses on the single most important message. 1 Corinthians 15:1-2

“For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received,” – Paul never deviated from the Gospel message delivered to Him. Acts 18:1-18

Galatians 1:11-12

The Message of Hope has 3 parts to it:

Part #1 – Jesus Died For Our Sins: “that Christ died (Actual) for our sins;” – that there is no salvation apart from the sacrifice and death of Jesus Christ.

“for our sins” – Vicarious Suffering “is the act of allowing one’s self to go through suffering for the sake of others”; and Substitutionary Death – Jesus died in our place.

Every person is a sinner in need of salvation. Romans 3:10

Romans 3:23

Romans 6:23

“His death released His life to us and its transmission is by the act of faith!”

“according to the Scriptures,” – (Scriptural) There are many Scriptures that speak of the sacrifice and death of Jesus.

The death of Jesus was by the determined plan of God. The death of Jesus was not an afterthought, it was, from the beginning, the predetermined plan of God.

Psalm 16:10

Psalm 22:15

Isaiah 53:8

John 19:30

John 19:33-37

1 Peter 3:18

Part #2 – Jesus Was Buried: 1 Corinthians 15:4 – “and that He was buried,” (Burial)

The death and burial of Jesus is not the complete Gospel message! If this is the message, then Jesus is a dead Savior!

Part #3 Jesus Was Resurrected: 1 Corinthians 15:4

Resurrection – “The act of rising from the dead, to rise again, to live again.” Not living again in another body, or spiritually living but a physical re-turning back to the body.

Jonah 1:17

Matthew 12:40

2. Verses 5-8 – The Resurrection Is Indisputable Truth:

1 Corinthians 15:5

“He appeared” – He was seen; this phrase is used 4X.

Appeared To An Individual – “Cephas,” – This is another name for Peter.
Mark 16:7

Luke 24:34

Appeared To A Small Group – “then to the twelve” – Jesus met them again in the upper room. John 20:19

1 Corinthians 15:6

Appeared To A Large Assembly – “After that He appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time,” – Matthew 26:32

“most of whom remain until now, but some have fallen asleep;” – it had been 25 years ago.

1 Corinthians 15:7

Appeared To An Individual – “then He appeared to James,” – This was the brother of Jesus who later on wrote the book of James.

Appeared To A Small Group – “then to all the apostles;” – We know in Acts 1:6-11 the apostles witness the ascension of Jesus into heaven.

1 Corinthians 15:8

“and last of all” – This is the greatest of all proofs.

“He appeared to me also.” – Acts 9:3-6

6 Proofs Of The Resurrection:

- 1. The Proof Of The Resurrection Is The Appearances Of Jesus To His Followers.**
- 2. The Proof Of The Resurrection Was That The Disciples Did Not Believe In His Resurrection.**
- 3. The Proof Of The Changed Lives Of The Disciples: Men And Women Today Testify That The Power Of The Risen Christ Has Transformed Their Lives.**
- 4. The Proof Of The Existence Of The Church:** The Resurrection Was The Central Message Of The Early Church: Acts 4:33; 5:30-32; Romans 5:21.
- 5. The Proof Of The Resurrection Is Jesus Predicted His Own Resurrection:** Matthew 16:21; Mark 9:9-10; John 2:18-22; The Old Testament Foretold It: Psalm 16:10; Acts 2:25-31; 13:33-37.
- 6. The Proof Of The Empty Tomb And The Grave Clothes: John 20:3-9.**

Application: What Is My Response To The Message Of The Resurrection Of Jesus?

1. Have I Received The Good News Of The Forgiveness Of My Sin?
Acts 10:43
2. Have I Received The Good News That The God Of The Resurrection Dwelling In Me? Romans 8:11 – New creation.
3. Have I Received The Good News That I No Longer Need To Fear Death Because Jesus Conquered It? Revelation 1:17-18