

Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians – Part 16 (early 54)

1 Corinthians 15:1–34

Paul's Gospel—The Bodily Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the Dead

- 1 Now I make known to you, brethren, the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand,
- 2 by which also you are saved, if you hold fast the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain.
- 3 For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, [cf. [Isa 53](#)]
- 4 and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, [cf. [Ps 16:10](#); [Hos 6:2](#)]
- 5 and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.
- 6 After that He appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom remain until now, but some have fallen asleep;
- 7 then He appeared to James, then to all the apostles;
- 8 and last of all, as to one untimely born, He appeared to me also.
- 9 For I am the least of the apostles, and not fit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.
- 10 But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me did not prove vain; but I labored even more than all of them, yet not I, but the grace of God with me.
- 11 Whether then *it was* I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

The Implications of the Claim That There Is No Resurrection of the Dead

- 12 Now if Christ is preached, that He has been raised from the dead, how do some among you say that there is no resurrection of the dead?
- 13 But if there is no resurrection of the dead, not even Christ has been raised;
- 14 and if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is vain, your faith also is vain.
- 15 Moreover we are even found *to be* false witnesses of God, because we testified against God that He raised Christ, whom He did not raise, if in fact the dead are not raised.
- 16 For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised;
- 17 and if Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins.
- 18 Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished.
- 19 If we have hoped in Christ in this life only, we are of all men most to be pitied.

The Consequences of Christ's Resurrection

- 20 But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who are asleep.
- 21 For since by a man *came* death, by a man also *came* the resurrection of the dead.
- 22 For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive.
- 23 But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, after that those who are Christ's at His coming,
- 24 then *comes* the end, when He hands over the kingdom to the God and Father, when He has abolished all rule and all authority and power.
- 25 For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet.
- 26 The last enemy that will be abolished is death.
- 27 For HE HAS PUT ALL THINGS IN SUBJECTION UNDER HIS FEET. [[Ps 8:6](#); cf. [Heb 2:8–10](#)] But when He says, "All things are put in subjection," it is evident that He is excepted who put all things in subjection to Him.
- 28 When all things are subjected to Him, then the Son Himself also will be subjected to the One who subjected all things to Him, so that God may be all in all.

The Absurdity of the Claim That There Is No Resurrection of the Dead

29 Otherwise, what will those do who are baptized for the dead? If the dead are not raised at all, why then are they baptized for them?

30 Why are we also in danger every hour?

31 I affirm, brethren, by the boasting in you which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily.

32 If from human motives I fought with wild beasts at Ephesus, what does it profit me? If the dead are not raised, LET US EAT AND DRINK, FOR TOMORROW WE DIE.

33 Do not be deceived: “Bad company corrupts good morals.”

34 Become sober-minded as you ought, and stop sinning; for some have no knowledge of God. I speak *this* to your shame.

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