

THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST: 1Corinthians 15: 1-58

PART ONE:

PAUL PREACHED THAT CHRIST ROSE FROM THE DEAD ACCORDING TO THE SCRIPTURES:

1 Corinthians 15:1-11: 1 Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand;

2 By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain.

3 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;

4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

5 And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve:

6 After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remains unto this present, but some are fallen asleep.

7 After that, he was seen of James, then of all the apostles.

8 And last of all he was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time.

9 For I am the least of the apostles, that am not meant 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 which was bestowed upon me was not in vain; but I laboured more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.

11 Therefore whether it were I or they, so we preach, and so ye believed.

THE RESURRECTION IS A VITAL PART OF THE GOSPEL; as we will see in 1 Corinthians 15:1-11.

(A) The gospel is fixed, permanent, unchangeable truth that we must accept or reject. (1 Corinthians 15:1) In Galatians 1:6-8 Paul wrote; “I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel:

7 Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. This is the clincher!

8 But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.”

He was certain that the gospel he preached was the tru gospel, he declared that there is no other gospel.

(B) The gospel is the sure foundation on which we stand. (1 Corinthians 15:1) The Israelites believed this truth when they sang Psalm 46:1-3. 1 “God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

2 Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea;

3 Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof. Selah.” This is saying, when we know that our hope and trust are in the Lord, we will not be troubled by the chaos around us; Sad news, disappointment, disaster, the pandemic, financial losses, or the storms of life will not shake our faith. We remain unmovable and persist because we know that He can deliver us, if He chooses to do so; and if He does not, He is there with us to see us through, and all that we go through are to make us better for our good and His glory.

(C) Those who stop believing in the resurrection of Christ lose their salvation. “By the gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you, Otherwise, you have believed in vain. (1 Corinthians 15:2) Salvation has a beginning, a middle and completion. It has a past, present and future. That is; I was saved when I accepted Christ, I am being saved as I continue to obey Him in this life, and I will be saved when He calls me home. Salvation begins when a person is born again. It contains as we obey Christ and follows His teachings. Salvation will be completed when we receive our new bodies and enter eternity with Christ. (Read 1 Corinthians 9:27-10:5) We are encouraged to remain faithful to the end. The Israelites on their way to the promise land were baptized, when they crossed the Red Sea and by the cloud that protected them. They drank from the same spiritual water from the Rock and ate the same spiritual food. Yet none of the adults who started on the journey, except Caleb and Joshua reached the promise land. They all perished because of unbelief; We are on our journey to our promise land; therefore, let us remain faithful to the end.

(D) The gospel that the apostles preached emphasized the resurrection of Christ. (1 Corinthians 15:1-11) Let us look at the four parts or basic truths of the gospel:

(1) Christ died for our sins. (According to the Scriptures 1 Corinthians 5:7) He is Our Passover Lamb. Through the death of Christ on the cross, God was reconciling the world to Himself, not counting men’s sins against them. (2 Corinthians 5:18); Isaiah 53:5-6; “5 But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.”

1Peter 2:24-25) “24 Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being

dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

25 For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls.”

(2) He was buried. (1 Corinthians 15:4)

(3) He was raised from the dead on the third day. (According to the Scriptures (1 Corinthians 15:4) The same Jesus Christ who lived, died on the cross for our sins, and was buried - this same Jesus rose from the dead. He died with our sins on His shoulders; but He rose without them.

(4) He appeared to hundreds of witnesses after His resurrection. (1 Corinthians 15:5-8) The resurrection of Jesus is a historical fact. Both the Old and New Testaments state that truth is established by two or more witnesses. After the resurrection, He appeared not only to His disciples but to more than five hundred at one time. Old Testament references, Numbers 35:30 and Deut. 17:6, 19:15; New Testament, Matt. 18:16, John 8:13-18, 10:25; 2 Corinthians 13:1 and 1 Timothy 5:19. The Old and New Testaments and our courts of law base truth on the witness of two or more witnesses. The apostles preached and taught the resurrection of Jesus Christ as an essential truth of our salvation. Christianity is based on this truth that Jesus Christ rose from the dead.