

Cornerstone Faith of West Liberty
1 Corinthians 15:20-28 – Christ wins
January 19, 2025

I. BUT Christ is risen!

- Christ is the first-fruits of the dead
- Death came be a man → life comes from a man (Rom. 5:15)
Romans 5:15 (NKJV) *But the free gift is not like the offense. For if by the one man's offense many died, much more the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abounded to many.*
- In the first Adam we all die → in the last Adam (Jesus Christ) all will be made alive (Rom. 5:17-21)
Romans 5:17 (NKJV) *For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.)*

II. BUT each in its order

1. Christ the first fruits (John 5:28-29; 1 Pet. 1:3-5; Acts 26:22-23)
2. Those who are Christ's at His coming
1 Thessalonians 4:13, 16-17 (NKJV) *But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope...¹⁶ For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.*
3. Then the end
 - Christ deliver the Kingdom to the Father
 - All rule, authority and power end
Daniel 7:13-14 (NKJV) *"I was watching in the night visions, And behold, One like the Son of Man, Coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, And they brought Him near before Him. ¹⁴ Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, That all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, Which shall not pass away, And His kingdom the one Which shall not be destroyed.*
 - Christ reigns until all enemies under His feet
 - Exception is God the Father
 - This includes death (Rev. 20:13-14)
Revelation 20:13-14 (NKJV) *The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. ¹⁴ Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.*
 - Christ submits to the Father (1 Cor. 11:2-3)

III. Consummation→God will be all in all

- This is the beginning of eternity with the New Jerusalem, new earth and new heaven
- Since God is all in all our focus needs to remain on Jesus Christ and not this world
2 Timothy 2:3-4 (NKJV) *You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. ⁴ No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier.*
- We are no longer citizens of the kingdoms of this world or age as we have moved from them into God's Kingdom
Colossians 1:12-14 (KJV) *Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: ¹³ Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: ¹⁴ In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:*
- God only has one way into His kingdom—Jesus Christ—there is no other way
John 14:6 (NKJV) *Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.*
- Some may force their way in by another means but they are not true citizens and will be removed (John 10:1; Matt. 22:11-14)
John 10:1 (NKJV) *"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door, but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber.*
- **The whole point of the resurrection is Jesus lives! Jesus reigns! Jesus wins!**
- He must be Lord before He is Saviour (Rom. 10:9-10)
- We must live as if HE is Lord if we want to enter and remain in His kingdom
John 15:10 (NKJV) *If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love.*
- We keep His commands because we love Him without modifying them as they are written clearly so they can be obeyed
1 John 5:2-3 (NKJV) *By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments. ³ For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome.*
- Jesus is standing at the door of Cornerstone Faith—at the door of each of us and asking if we will let Him in so He can dine with us—the choice is ours! (Rev. 3:20)
 - If we want to be on the throne with Jesus we must open the door of our hearts to Him daily and live as He calls us to live daily
 - Do we have ears to hear?