

THE TRUTH OF THE RESURRECTION

1 Corinthians 15

EASTER 2020.

We are “sheltering in place”, instead of worshipping together, celebrating the resurrection! Easter means different things to different people in other times:

- Peter cottontail
- Chocolate Easter bunnies
- Coloring eggs
- White House Easter egg roll.
- New outfits, Easter bonnets.
- Beginning of Spring
- Spring break, head to Florida beaches

For today, we look at the “Resurrection” chapter in the New Testament, 1 Corinthians 15.

The Gospel

Further about the Gospel

Physical proof of the Gospel

The Gospel 1 Corinthians 15: 1-3

vs. 1-2. In these 2 verses, Paul reminded the believers at Corinth that They had responded to his preaching and were converted. (“which you received”). Then he reminded them that as followers of Christ, they Were being sanctified, conformed to the image of Jesus. (“are being saved”).

vs. 3. Paul begins to describe the first tenet of the Gospel. “Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures”. How did Paul receive the Gospel? Recall what he said in Galatians 1: 11-12. Paul spent 3 years preparing to Minister to the Gentiles, as described in Galatians 1. Then he met with Peter and James, the half brother of Jesus.

The death of Jesus for our sins was no accident. Recall what was said In Isaiah 53 about the suffering servant.

Further about the Gospel 1 Corinthians 15: 4

vs. 4. Second tenet of the Gospel--Christ was buried. This was proof Of the reality of His death. He was placed in a borrowed tomb, which Was the property of a member of the Jewish Sanhedrin. See Matt. 27: 57-60. So at this point, Christianity is on par with many world religions: Their leader taught, preached, even did miracles, but eventually DIED. But then, Paul concluded with the third tenet of the Gospel: "he was Raised on the third day".

Today we can't go and worship Jesus as a dead person in his tomb. HE'S ALIVE!! Not only was Jesus raised, he was raised "according To the scriptures". It was predicted. See Matt 12: 39-40. He told his Followers that he would die, then rise again. See Mark 9: 31. Then when The resurrection happened, they were reminded that Jesus predicted His Resurrection. See Matt. 28: 5-6,

Physical proof of the Gospel 1 Corinthians 15: 5-8.

vs. 5. Christ appeared to Peter and the other Apostles

vs. 6. A mass appearance, over 500 at one time.

vs. 7. Appearance to James, (half brother of Jesus)

vs. 8 then to Paul on the Damascus road.

Here is a list of Jesus' Post Resurrection Appearances.

To Mary Magdalene---John 20

To the other women--Matt. 28

To Cleopas and friend on the road to Emmaus--Luke 24

To the disciples, minus Thomas--John 20

To the disciples, including Thomas--John 20

To the disciples again--Luke 24

To seven disciples-- John 21

To the disciples before His ascension--Matt. 28

To Peter and the disciples--1 Corinthians 15

To the 500--1 Corinthians 15

To James--1 Corinthians 15

To the disciples at His ascension--Acts 1

To Paul--1 Corinthians 15.

Was the resurrection real? Think a bit concerning Jesus' followers. When He was arrested, they all turned tail and ran. Peter denied even knowing Jesus. But after the resurrection, they became bold evangelists, who did Not fear anyone in telling the story of Jesus. Paul himself stated it best In the last verse of 1 Corinthians 15. "Therefore, my dear brothers, stand

Firm. Let nothing move you.”. AND THEY STOOD FIRM, AND WERE UNMOVABLE!

He lives! He lives!
Christ Jesus lives today.
He walks with me, and talks with me,
Along life's narrow way.
He lives! He lives!
Salvation to impart,
You ask me how I know He lives?
He lives--within my heart!

HAPPY RESURRECTION SUNDAY

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