

Personal/ Small Group Sermon Study

Resurrection Sunday

Week of April 12, 2020 A.D.

Jesus was crucified, dead, and buried. On the third day, He arose from the dead. He ascended into Heaven. He is now seated at the right hand of God. He is coming back to judge the living and the dead. Let's talk about that in this lesson.

Read 1 Corinthians 15:1 – 2

1. In your opinion, what does it mean to be "saved"? In your answer, please explain (a) from what Paul wants us to be saved, (b) how we can be saved, and (c) why there are people who choose not to be saved.
2. Please explain what Paul is saying in verse 2. In your answer, explain whether or not a saved person can lose their salvation and (a) if they can lose their salvation, explain how or (b) if they cannot lose their salvation, explain why not.

Read 1 Corinthians 15:3

3. From whom did Paul receive what he "passed on" to the Corinthians? In your answer, consider Acts 9:17 – 22 and Galatians 1:13 – 18. To which particular Biblical teaching was Paul referring when he wrote "according to the Scriptures"? Consider Isaiah 53:5 – 6, 11 and Psalm 16:9 – 11.

Read 1 Corinthians 15:3 – 5

4. Please analyze, critique, and discuss this statement: "Each passage of Scripture must always be interpreted in the light of what the rest of the Scriptures say on the topic. Otherwise, any given passage of Scripture can be distorted and used to teach something that is not true."

Read Matthew 12:38 – 42

5. Will God hold every person who has the opportunity to have access to the Bible accountable to Him for their failure to investigate the teachings of the Bible? Is God always gracious and loving? Does God condemn people to hell if they reject Christ as the one and only way to receive eternal life? Please explain the reasons for your answers.
6. Refer to verse 41. Can a person experience salvation without also experiencing repentance? Please analyze, critique, and discuss these statements: "To repent means to bring your personal beliefs into agreement with what God has spoken. Repentance means to renounce your former way of life and to begin to live in accordance with the teachings of the Bible."

Read Matthew 12:43 – 45

7. Please analyze, critique, and discuss this statement: “Being reformed (doing some personal moral house-cleaning) is not the same as being regenerated. A person can clean up his life by obeying the teachings of Jesus. But, without being born again, that person will still go to hell.”

Read 1 Corinthians 15:6 – 8

8. Please analyze, critique, and discuss this statement: “No person in their right mind could ever seriously believe that a dead man came back to life and now remains alive forever. Christians are weird. And, they should be excluded from all positions of leadership in our education system, our political system, and our government.”
9. Please analyze, critique, and discuss this statement: “I can be saved and go to heaven as long as I believe that Christ was the Son of God and that He died to pay the penalty for my sins. My salvation doesn’t require that I believe that Jesus rose from the dead.”

Read 1 Corinthians 15:12 – 19

10. Can the Bible be true if Christ has not risen from the dead and if Christ is not currently seated at the right hand of God? If the Bible is not 100% true without any internal error or contradiction, can your faith in Christ save you? Please explain your answers.

Read Romans 10:8 – 10

11. Why is belief in the bodily resurrection of Jesus essential for our salvation? Is there any reason to be a Christian if there is no bodily resurrection and no eternal life for all who believe in Jesus as Savior and Lord? Please explain your answers.

Read 1 Corinthians 15:50 – 58

12. Refer to verse 58. What does Paul mean by: “...stand firm. Let nothing move you.”? Are all Christians fulltime servants of Christ? Please explain the requirements and duties of a fulltime servant of Christ; and, please state where you and others can read about those requirements and duties. Why and how do we know that our labor for Christ is “not in vain”? Please explain the reasons for your answers.

Consider: Without the bodily resurrection of Jesus, we would have no assurance that God has accepted the shed blood of Jesus as the payment for the penalty of our sins. Our eternal salvation through faith in Christ is confirmed and made certain by the bodily resurrection of Jesus. “You think about that.” Amen.