

JESUS IS ALIVE!!

Gospel Truths Confirmed by the Resurrection

I Corinthians 15:1-20
Pastor Doug Schillinger
March 26-27, 2016

Jesus Rose Again—this means...

I. Jesus Defeats our Sin

Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that **Christ died for our sins** in accordance with the Scriptures, that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. **I Corinthians 15:1-4**

Jesus died FOR our sins

Religion vs. The Gospel

Religion - you do your best to earn God's favor

The Gospel - Jesus has done the work for us

Diagnostic Question:

What do you have to do to be saved?

II. Jesus Disarms our Doubts

He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then He appeared to more than 500 brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. Then He appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, He appeared also to me. **I Corinthians 15:5-8**

Evidences for the Resurrection

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| 1) | 3) |
| 2) | 4) |

III. Jesus Displays our Hope

And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. **I Corinthians 15:17-20**

Because Jesus is alive...

For Further Study

1. To investigate what the Bible teaches about the resurrection of Jesus, read the Gospel narratives found in **Matthew 28, Mark 16:1-8; Luke 24; and John 20-21. Acts 1:1-11** shows Jesus' interaction with His disciples after His resurrection.
2. Jesus' resurrection took everyone by surprise—even Jesus' disciples!! It was a radical claim boldly made by the early church. Look at these passages to see how the early church leaders proclaimed the resurrection: **Acts 2:14-41; 3:11-19; 4:1-12; 4:33.**
3. James was a man mentioned in our sermon this morning to whom Jesus appeared. James was Jesus' half brother and he was skeptical of Jesus' claims to be the Messiah. He even believed that Jesus was out of His mind! But after seeing Jesus risen from the dead, James became one of the leaders of the early church. Trace James' journey from skepticism to belief in these passages: James as a skeptic: **Mark 3:21; 6:2-6; John 7:5; 19:25-27.** James as part of the early group of believers: **Acts 1:14.** James as a leader of the church: **Acts 15:13; 21:17-18; Galatians 1:19; 2:9.**
4. Over the next six weeks, we are going to be looking at how the resurrection of Jesus displays our hope—specifically, our hope in defeating sin in our lives. We are going to look at the seven deadly sins and how the death and resurrection of Jesus renews and revives us! To prepare for this study, look at these passages that point to the new life we can have as we are united with Jesus through the gospel: **Romans 6:1-13; Roman 8:9-13; Galatians 2:20.**

Resources:

[The Case for Easter](#) by Lee Strobel

[The Challenge of Easter](#) by NT Wright

[Risen](#) by Steven Mathewson

[Why Easter?](#) by Barbara Reaoch

www.desiringgod.org/articles/historical-evidence-for-the-resurrection

www.reasonablefaith.org/popular-articles/jesus-of-nazareth

www.garyhabermas.com/Evidence/

To Discuss: With our families, friends, community groups

It is a great discipline to not only study God's Word on our own, but to study God's word in community with others. This is where we can be helped and encouraged not only to study the Bible but also to put it into practice and to obey the Bible!!

What is the significance of Jesus dying FOR us? Share your answers to the diagnostic question with each other. Are we relying on Jesus or on ourselves?

Which evidences for the resurrection are helpful to you? What difference does it/should it make in our lives that we can know that Jesus is alive?

Which of the benefits of the resurrection is most meaningful to you this Easter?