

April 28, 2019

Right Doctrine Leads to Changed Lives!

1 Corinthians 15:35-58

The Implications of Christ's Resurrection!

The gospel of the New Testament, the message of the Christian church from the beginning, is one that is based on the literal physical resurrection of the Son of God from the grave

Ephesians 2:6 (ESV) And raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus.

Romans 6:11 (ESV) So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

I am already risen with Him spiritually, but I am yet going to rise with Him in a physical and literal sense

1 Corinthians 15:22-23

The apostle explains how it all happens in the later verses of this great chapter

1 Corinthians 15:50-54

But what does all this mean?

2 Corinthians 5:10 (ESV) For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

John 5:24-29

But you see now the significance of the doctrine of the resurrection...A man who realizes every day of his life that he has got to stand before Christ and give an account, is a man who is very soon going to pay attention to the way he is living

That is what the Scripture tells us is the significance and the meaning of this doctrine of the resurrection
1 Corinthians 15:23-25

What, then, do I conclude from all this?

What are the deductions that we must inevitably draw from all this if we really believe it?

1. I am to have nothing to do with this condemned world

1 John 2:15-17 (KJV) Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

17 And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

The next deduction is...

2. We must never be discouraged

Matthew 28:18 (KJV) And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power (ESV, authority) is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

He is reigning, and He has said

"All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth"

Paul says, writing to the Ephesians, the power that works in you, it is "his mighty power, the same power that raised Christ from the dead"

Ephesians 1:19-20 (ESV) And what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might 20 that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places.

Then there is a 3rd deduction:

3. That the world cannot separate us from Him and from His love

Romans 8:38-39 (ESV) For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Then the 4th deduction:

4. If all this is true—and it is—then I have no time to lose or to waste

1 John 3:3 (ESV) And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

If we do not want to feel ashamed when we stand and look into His blessed, holy face, and see the marks of the nails and the wound in His side, which He suffered for us, then we need to prepare for the sight of Him, prepare ourselves to meet Him

Then there is this final deduction

5. Therefore, be steadfast, immovable in this doctrine of the resurrection of Christ and our coming resurrection

1 Corinthians 15:58

But this last verse of this fifteenth chapter ties it all up, Paul uses the word “Therefore”, because of this... That is the argument; you see the logic—you cannot get away from it

Then, above and beyond everything else, let us dwell upon the glory of it all!

2 Corinthians 4:18 (ESV) As we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

O God, let the Holy Spirit might open our eyes!

1 Corinthians 2:9 (ESV) But, as it is written, “What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him”.

The doctrine of the resurrection—what a stimulus to our sanctification and how it should motivate us to witness to the lost

Let nothing come between us and this mighty truth that we have been considering together

Let us be resolved and steadfast daily to live for God’s glory, being radically obedient to His commands, striving to love God with all my heart, soul, mind and strength all the while working in His Church to advance His Kingdom

As we anticipate that day when we shall see Him who died and was resurrected and has come again