

If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied. - 1 Corinthians 15:19

## I. IF THE RESURRECTION DID NOT HAPPEN

- Some in Corinth are teaching a false gospel. It is the gospel of the Sadducees then, and atheists now. A false hope in this world, and no hope in the next (Job 19:25-27; Ps. 14:1; Dan. 12:2-3; Mark 12:18).
- If Jesus did not rise from the dead:
  1. He, naturally, is dead.
  2. Gospel preaching is useless.
  3. Every Christian throughout time had a useless faith.
  4. The Scriptures misrepresent God.
  5. We are all still in our sins.
  6. Everyone we know who has died ceases to exist, or worse, are in hell.
  7. Christians are pitiful, and should be pitied.

## II. CHRIST IS PROCLAIMED AS RESURRECTED

- Resurrection and eternal life were the hope of Old Testament saints, and remain the hope of New Testament saints (Job 19:25-27; Ps. 73:21-26; 116:15; Dan. 12:2-3; John 14:1-3; Phil. 3:17-4:1).
- Jesus did not remain in the grave. He, himself, declared that death would not conquer him (Mark 8:31-32, 9:30-32; 10:33-34; John 14:29).
- The preaching of Jesus' disciples declared the resurrection to be true (Acts 2:22-36, 3:11-16; 4:8-12; 8:34-35; 10:39-43; 13:28-41; 17:29-31; 24:15; 26:7-8).

**KNOW:** Some have preached that Jesus has not been raised from the dead. He was “a good man” or even “a prophet of God,” but he is not the risen Savior. If this is true, we too will not be raised from the dead. If so, Christians are pitiful indeed.

**DO:** Live a life that is not in vain. Jesus is resurrected, and you will be too.

### **Suggested Reading:**

*The Gospel of Jesus Christ* by Paul Washer (Available in the LifePoint Adult Library)

*Basic Christianity* by John R.W. Stott  
(Available in the LifePoint Adult Library)

### **For Children:**

*The Gospel: Big Thoughts for Little Thinkers* by Joey Allen (Available in the LifePoint Kid's Library)

**Next Week's Preaching Text:** 1 Corinthians 15:20-34

### **Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families**

#### **Please Read I Corinthians 15:12-19**

1. Why, do you think, would someone who claims to be a Christian deny the resurrection?
2. What does Paul think about Christianity minus the resurrection of Jesus?
3. Why is it logical that “if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins”?
4. What does Paul mean in verse 18 when he refers to “those who have fallen asleep”?
5. Why is a hope in Christ for this life alone so pitiful?
6. What is your point of application from this text?