

If the Dead Rise Not

1 Corinthians 15:13-20, 32; Isaiah 22:12-14

If the dead rise not, if there be no resurrection of the dead, all is vain. Your faith, your works, your life is in vain. If there is no resurrection, there is no point for church, no point for preaching, no point for living for the Lord, no point to live holy, and just, and right, and there is not point to believing the Bible and believing on Jesus Christ.

The gospel (1 Corinthians 15:3-8) is Christ died for our sins, according to the scriptures, and he was buried, ROSE AGAIN the third day according to the scriptures. If Christ did not rise from the dead, there would be no gospel.

If Jesus Christ died, in stayed in the tomb, he would have been like any other religious leader this world has ever seen. What sets Jesus apart from everybody else is that he rose from the dead. Mohamed is dead, Buddha is dead, the popes are dead, Mary is dead, Moses is dead, BUT JESUS CHRIST DIED AND ROSE AGAIN! What sets Biblical Christianity apart from everything else out there is that our God rose from the dead and is alive forevermore! Nobody has anything better than that.

Everyone has a problem with death. Jesus Christ rose from the dead victorious over it. If you want to get victory over death, Jesus Christ can help you, NOBODY else can!

There is no point in arguing with Muslims, Catholics, Protestants, Buddhists, etc over doctrines and which Bible is the right Bible, and what rules we should obey and all the rest. What matters is JESUS CHRIST DIED AND ROSE AGAIN have you believed on him? Do you want to die? Of course not. Jesus is the only one that rose from the dead victorious over death, hell, sin, and the grave. Believe on him, trust in him, call upon him. Everything else doesn't matter in light of the resurrection of Christ.

Well we have the book of Mormon and that is God's word too. Well I have Jesus Christ and he died and took away my sins and rose from the dead and promised me eternal life because I believed on him! You got anything better than that!?! They don't have anything better than that! NOBODY has anything better than that! Eternal life is a free gift from God to those that believe on Jesus Christ. Well, the religious people will say, you have to live right, and do this, and do that, and don't do this, and don't do that and you MIGHT receive eternal life. You believe what you want, the HOLY BIBLE says he that hath the Son hath life: he that hath not the Son hath not life. Whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life! That's what Jesus said, why do I care what you have to say, is your word greater than his! Can you raise yourself from the dead by your own power? So shut your mouth.

What gives us assurance of our salvation and that God has taken away our sins, and that our sins have been paid for in full, and that we don't have to fear death and hell is that Jesus Christ rose from the dead! Without the resurrection of Christ, the Bible says all preaching is vain, your faith is vain, and you are yet in your sins!

Ecclesiastes 1:1-3

Solomon was the wisest man that ever lived and he concluded that all is vanity! That is true, IF there be no resurrection of the dead. The fact of the matter is that if you are saved, your life is not in vain.

But God is realistic. God admits that if there is no resurrection, there is absolutely no point to live godly and soberly in this world, there is no point to doing good instead of evil. Look at 1 Corinthians 15:32.

You see that? If the dead rise not, let us eat and drink; for tomorrow we die. You know that is the mindset of lost people? They know they are going to die one day. So they decide to “live life to the fullest” which means live a life satisfying the lusts of their own flesh without regard to God. You know what, if there is no resurrection of the dead, why not live for yourself?

The lost man lives like this because he doesn't believe in life after death; he doesn't believe in a resurrection, he doesn't believe in the God of the Bible. He believes once he dies that is it, so he will make the best of his short time on earth and live for himself.

Now let's be honest, if crucifying yourself daily, and dying daily, and fighting your flesh daily, didn't have any reward associated with it, what's the point? It doesn't do you any good down here does it? If all there was to life was down here, why live that way. If believing on Jesus Christ didn't save your soul from death and hell, what good would believing on him do? It would do you no good.

Look at 1 Corinthians 15:19. God admits, if our hope in Jesus Christ only pertained to this life, we would be the MOST miserable people on earth. Why's that? Because the struggles, trials, tribulations, and reproach associated with being a disciple of Jesus Christ. If you live like Christ, you will have persecution and sufferings in this world. And if that's all we get for following Christ, God admits, you would be most miserable. But praise God, our hope in Christ is only experienced in *this* world as a grain of mustard seed, but at harvest time, our hope is fully realized and grows into a great tree (Mark 4:31-32).

You know what the Bible calls the born again experience? Just first fruits (Romans 8:23). We think it is the greatest thing and it is GREAT don't get me wrong, but it's only a foretaste of glory divine! It's only the beginning. God says when you received the Holy Ghost, he only made a small down payment (Ephesians 1:12-14). That means, THERE IS MORE TO COME! When you received the Holy Ghost, God made a down payment on you, and he intends to purchase you completely (that is your body) at the day of redemption (Romans 8:23). What the Bible says is to come (2 Peter 1:2-4, 1 Corinthians 15:41-58, 2 Corinthians 3:18, 2 Corinthians 4:17-18, Colossians 1:27, 2 Thessalonians 2:14, 1 Peter 5:1, 10, Romans 8:18)

One day soon, this will be all over. Never again will people remember the songs of this world, never again will people remember the rock stars, the sport stars, the presidents, the great people of this world anymore. Never again will we see filth on TV, and filth on the internet, and filth on the radio, and filth driving to work, and filth at work. Never again will the wicked rule this world. Never again will there be injustice. Never again will people respect persons. Never again will sin corrupt everything. Never again, will you have to worry about locking your house. Never again, will you have to worry about someone stealing from you. Never again, will you have to experience some the sufferings and heartaches that go

on in this world. NEVER AGAIN! God said these things will pass away! It will all be forgotten one day (Isaiah 65:13-19, Revelation 21:1-5).

If that is true, and it is, what manner of men ought we to be in this present evil world (2 Peter 3:10-13)?

The Bible says AT OUR BEST STATE we are altogether vanity (Psalm 39:5). All the nations are less than vanity in God's sight (Isaiah 40:17). The Bible says we are dust (Genesis 3:19). What good is dust for? The Bible says our life is like a vapor, it is here for a little away and then vanishes away (James 4:14).

This life is short, and thank God that it is! But yea rather thank God there is more to life than this present evil world! If the dead rise not, all is vanity. BUT thank God there IS A RESSURECTION that awaits us unto eternal life, joy, and glory!