

**THE RISEN LORD JESUS  
THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST – PART 1 OF 2  
1 CORINTHIANS 15:1-4**

**THE RESURRECTION**

1. The **resurrection** of the Lord Jesus Christ is the foundation of all Christianity.
2. Jesus taught His disciples about His pending **death**, His subsequent burial, and glorious **resurrection** from the grave (Mark 8:31; 9:9, 31).
3. Our salvation is provided and connected **directly** to our **belief** in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus (Rom. 10:9).
4. The doctrinal problem addressed in 1 Corinthians 15 was not the Corinthians' unbelief in Jesus' resurrection, but their **confusion** about their own resurrection (1 Cor. 15:12).

**KEY THOUGHT:** Paul establishes a solid foundation by giving **evidences** for Jesus' resurrection (1 Cor. 15:1-11).

**I. THE GOSPEL TRANSFORMS THE CHRISTIAN'S LIFE (1 CORINTHIANS 15:1-2).**

- A. **Appreciate** what the Savior means to you (1 Cor. 15:1).
  1. All Christians anywhere in the world are **miraculously** changed by their salvation which is grounded in the resurrection of Christ (2 Cor. 3:18).
  2. It is our **trust** in the **reality** of Christ's resurrection that we are saved, **delivered** from sin's condemnation.
- B. **Hold fast** to the reality of your salvation (1 Cor. 15:2).
  1. The warning is not against losing their salvation, but in possessing **non-saving** faith (Matthew 13:1-23; 7:24-27).

2. We do not **exhaust** the meaning of salvation at the point of belief:
  - a. “You are saved” is a **continuous** present condition.
  - b. “You will be saved” is the **progressive** sense that is effective at death.

**KEY THOUGHT:** Saving faith implies **surrender** to the demands required by transformation (Matt. 7:21-27).

## **II. THE GOSPEL HAS ALWAYS BEEN GOD’S PLAN (1 CORINTHIANS 15:3-4).**

- A. The Old Testament books were the **Scriptures** of Judaism and the early church.
  1. Jesus told the two men on the road to Emmaus the necessity of the Gospel from the **Scriptures** (Luke 24:25-27).
  2. When unbelieving Jews asked for a sign to confirm He was the Messiah, Jesus pointed them to **Jonah** (Matt. 12: 39-40).
  3. Paul stated the Gospel to King Agrippa by referencing **Moses** (Acts 26:22-23).
- B. The resurrection was revealed “according to the Scriptures” and was **consistent** with Jewish beliefs (1 Cor. 15:3-4).
  1. The **Father** raised His Son from the dead to **conquer** sin and death (1 Cor. 15:4, 15; Rom. 6:9-10).
  2. Paul emphasizes that this is a **permanent** state (1 Cor. 15:4).

**KEY THOUGHT:** Jesus’ **bodily** resurrection brought victory over sin and death for the **transformed** believer (Rom. 6:9-14).

**FOR FURTHER STUDY AND PERSONAL GROWTH**

**January 30, 2011**

**SUNDAY: *The reality of Jesus' resurrection is absolutely essential for true transforming salvation (1 Cor. 15:1-11)***! Chapter 15 of 1 Corinthians is completely devoted to doctrine, more specifically to one doctrine. Paul provides the most extensive explanation and teaching on the resurrection in all of Scripture. The Resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ is the foundation for all of Christianity. The Resurrection is the focal point of every other truth that Jesus taught. Jesus taught His disciples about His pending death, His subsequent burial, and His glorious resurrection from the grave (Mark 8:31; 9:9; 31; John 11:25). True New Testament Christianity is completely based on Jesus' resurrection. Our salvation is provided and connected directly to our belief in the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus (Rom. 10:9). The Resurrection is the cornerstone of the gospel. However, the doctrinal problem in 1 Corinthians 15 was not the Corinthians' unbelief in Jesus' resurrection, but confusion about their own resurrection (1 Cor. 15:12). Have you really thought about the importance of the resurrection of Jesus? How about your own? Wait patiently before the Lord in prayer thinking about Jesus' resurrection. Ask the Lord to let you see how Jesus redeemed you from your sin with His separation from the Father for sin. ***May the reality of Jesus' death lead to reality about His resurrection!***

**MONDAY: *When you accept the gospel as true, salvation occurs and transforms your life (2 Cor. 3:18)***! If you have been a Christian for over three years, you may not have really thought about your salvation for some time. Have you contemplated what your life would be like without your salvation? Come to a point of appreciation for the gospel and what it means to you (1 Cor. 15:1). When you were saved, you were transformed. All Christians anywhere in the world are miraculously changed by their salvation which is grounded in the Resurrection of Jesus Christ (2 Cor. 3:18). Have you really thought about that Sunday morning when all of eternity changed? Jesus was resurrected! It is our trust in the reality of Christ's resurrection that we are saved, delivered from sin's condemnation. Is the Resurrection more than a "Bible Story" to you? Sit in the presence of the Lord and meditate on the truth of the Resurrection. Transformation of so many lives down through time is certainly proof of God's saving power. ***May the reality of Jesus' resurrection grip your life with its transforming power!***

**TUESDAY: *Transforming is instantaneous, but sanctification is ongoing in your life (1 Cor. 15:2)***! The moment that a person accepts Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior, a transformation takes place. The new creation is transformed into someone completely different than you were before Jesus (2 Cor. 5:17). Hold fast to the reality of your salvation (1 Cor. 15:1). It is important that you be sure that your faith grounded in the resurrection of Jesus overcoming sin and death. That is saving faith (Matt. 13:1-23; 7:24-27). Talking to the Lord about your salvation is a wise topic of prayer and meditation. When you are saved, you do not exhaust the meaning of salvation at the point of belief. You are "saved" at the moment you pray, and it is a continuous present condition that never changes. At the same time, you are "being saved" as you grow in spiritual maturity until this life ends and you are in heaven. How can thinking about Jesus' resurrection help you meditate about your own "spiritual resurrection"? Be still before the Lord and think deeply about the instantaneous transformation of your salvation. Reflect on what God wants to do today and tomorrow to empty you of yourself and fill you with the Holy Spirit. ***May the Holy Spirit create an urgency and passion within you to be righteous and holy!***

**WEDNESDAY: *Saving faith implies surrender to the demands required by a transformed lifestyle!***

Saving faith is based on grace alone. It is the grace of God and not any action on your part that brought your salvation (Eph. 2:8-9). Jesus died on the cross, was buried, and on the third day rose again (1 Cor. 15:3-4). It was Jesus' resurrection from the dead that set Him apart from any other martyr in history. Jesus was the Son of God that died to pay the price for mankind's sin so anyone who believed on Him could be saved from sin's penalty (John 3:16-18). Saving faith not only saves you, but transforms your life. Saving faith demands that you surrender to the scriptural demands that accompany transformation in your life. The observance of spiritual disciplines brings you in contact with the mind of God. Loving the Lord God with all your mind, and all your heart, and all your strength changes your perspective on everything in life (Deut. 6:5). In prayer, surrender yourself again to the Lord. Confess that your life is completely His, and ask Him to live through you (Gal. 2:20). ***May the peace of His presence bring you strength to be obedient to His will!***

**THURSDAY: *The Gospel is proclaimed in the Old Testament (Matt. 12:39-40; Acts 26:22-23)!***

The gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ coming to die for man's sin and rising on the third day to conquer sin and death has always been God's plan. Jesus used the Old Testament scriptures to tell the two men on the road to Emmaus the necessity of His death for the gospel (Luke 24:25-27). Jesus answers the catcalls of the Jews about Him being the Messiah with the account of Jonah in the great fish for three days (Matt. 12:39-40). Paul witnessed to King Agrippa with the words of Moses regarding the Messiah (Acts 26:22-23). Our current Old Testament books were the scriptures of Judaism and the early church. Praise God today for the consistency and simplicity of His plan to redeem man unto Himself. Reflect on the horror that was the crucifixion where God's wrath was exhausted against mankind's sin (Col 2:13-14). The beauty of the resurrection transforms our lives through the power of God. ***May the joy and peace of the resurrection remain with you every moment of the day!***

**FRIDAY: *Resurrection was God's plan to conquer sin and death (Rom. 6:9-10)!***

The Father raised His Son Jesus from the grave to conquer sin and death (1 Cor. 15:4, 15). The Greek verb tense Paul used described this resurrection as a permanent state (1 Cor. 15:4). The permanence of Jesus' resurrection is described in detail in Romans (6:9-10). Jesus has complete dominion over death. Sin and death have been conquered for the Christian forever. In silence, rest before the Lord and think about His provision for your salvation. Jesus did all the work for the forgiveness of your sin. The resurrection of Jesus on the third day fulfilled the plan of God that had been established before the foundation of the world. Praise the Lord! ***May the joy of being in Christ radiate from your life today and everyday!***

**SATURDAY: *Your belief in the bodily resurrection of Jesus is essential to your salvation***

***(Rom. 6:9-14)!*** The resurrection is the capstone of God's plan for the redemption of man who He created for fellowship with Him. Romans 6:9-14 speaks of the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus to redeem man from sin and conquer death (vv. 9-10). The demands of our saving faith and the subsequent transformation are to battle sin (v. 12). The Christian is to no longer give his body over to sin because sin has no dominion over the Christian (vv. 13-14). Ask the Lord for the wisdom and strength to see obedience to scripture as the best option and to reject temptation. ***May the life of Christ be lived through you (Gal. 2:20)!***