

Theme: Christ's physical resurrection is central to our faith, and His resurrection guarantees our own future resurrection.

I. Intro – Understanding Easter

- A. Recent poll – 75% non born-again believe in Christ's physical resurrection
- B. Same day – video of people – no idea what Easter celebrates
- C. Corinthian Christians did not understand it!
- D. Why this discrepancy?
- E. Do we understand why the resurrection matters?

II. Historical Reality of Christ's Resurrection

- A. Apostolic preaching in Acts
 - 1. 2:24, 32; 3:15; 4:10; 5:30; 10:39-40; 13:29-31; 17:31
 - 2. Consistent apostolic message!
- B. Paul's Gospel in Corinth
 - 1. The Gospel - 1 Corinthians 15:3-5
 - 2. We testified of this – 1 Corinthians 15:15
- C. Yet the Corinthian's misunderstood!

III. Why Does the Resurrection Matter?

- A. Heart of the Gospel message (vv1-4; apostles)
- B. The veracity of the Apostles (v15)

- C. Without the resurrection, faith is futile (vv 14, 17)
- D. Resurrection guarantees justification (Rom 4:25)
- E. Christ's resurrection guarantees ours (vv 17-18)

IV. Christ's Resurrection and Ours

- A. Christ is the firstfruits of our resurrection (v20)
- B. Christ raised first, then us (vv 21, 23)
- C. Easter – victory over death (vv54-57)

V. Adam's Loss or Christ's Victory

- A. In Adam we all died (v22)
- B. In Christ, we will be made alive (v22)
- C. Are you in Adam, or in Christ?
- D. Turn to Christ for life – now and in resurrection!

Why the Resurrection Matters

1 Corinthians 15:12-23

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Celebrate Jesus Celebrate

Hebrews 13:20-21 OR 1 Peter 1:3-5

24 But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him... 32 God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of the fact.

Acts 2:24, 32

15 You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this.

Acts 3:15

10 then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed.

Acts 4:10

30 The God of our fathers raised Jesus from the dead-- whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree.

Acts 5:30

39 We are witnesses of everything he did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a tree, 40 but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen.

Acts 10:39-40

29 When they had carried out all that was written about him, they took him down from the tree and laid him in a tomb. 30 But God raised him from the dead, 31 and for many days he was seen by those who had traveled with him from Galilee to Jerusalem. They are now his witnesses to our people.

Acts 13:29-31

31 For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to all men by raising him from the dead.

Acts 17:31

25 He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification.

Romans 4:25