BLESSED HOPE



BIBLE CHURCH

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Learning ...

Loving ...

Leaning ...

Living ...

Leading ...

By the Word of God



RESURRECTION LOGIC

1 CORINTHIANS 15:29-34

The Resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ is NOT some Myth, Legend, or Fantasy

- That would make Jesus a deceptive Liar
- That would make Salvation non-existent
- That would make the apostles and all gospel preachers deceptive (i.e., they would be spreading a Lie
- That would make believers in Christ the most pitiful of men for their hope would be futile.

The Resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ is a Historical, factual event.

- It is the guarantee that everybody, saved and unsaved, will rise from the dead
- It is the guarantee that all of Christ's enemies will be eliminated, the last enemy to be eliminated is death.
- It is the guarantee that God will be all in all, i.e., that He will have total and supreme sovereignty over His eternal kingdom with His people.

Living the Christian life would be utterly foolish if there is no resurrection from the dead

- What good is baptism for the identification with Christ if there is no resurrection from the dead?
- What good is suffering for the cause of Christ if there is no resurrection from the dead?
- What good is godly living in obedience to Christ if there is no resurrection from the dead?

- If There Is No Resurrection, What Good Is Baptism For Identification With Christ?
 - THE TEXT: "Otherwise, what will they do who are baptized for dead, if the dead do not rise at all? Why then are they baptized for the dead?" (n. This is one of the most difficult and obscure verses in all the Bible—with over 200 explanations, most of which are insane!!)

- THE TEACHING: There are three reasonable options for the meaning of the phrase "baptized for the dead."
 - Option #1: A believer being baptized on behalf of an unbaptized believer who died before he could get baptized, or on behalf of a unsaved relative or friend who died before they could get saved.
 - Option #2: A believer being baptized to replace a believer who died, either by natural death or by martyrdom.
 - Option #3: A believer being baptized on account of the godly testimony of a believer who died, either by natural death or by martyrdom.

- THE TRUTH: If there is no resurrection from the dead (implying that Christ Himself did not rise), baptism, for whatever reason, right or wrong, would be foolish!
 - Remember: One is NOT saved by baptism, but by grace through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, apart from works of any kind.
 - Remember: Baptism is a symbol of one's identification with the death and resurrection of Christ.
 - Remember: Baptism is the first step of obedience when one receives Christ by faith.



• IF THERE IS NO RESURRECTION, WHAT GOOD IS SUFFERING FOR THE CAUSE OF CHRIST?

– THE TEXT: And why do we stand in jeopardy every hour? I affirm, by the boasting in you which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily. If, in the manner of men, I have fought with beasts at Ephesus, what advantage is it to me?

- THE TEACHING: If there is no resurrection (implying that Christ Himself had not risen), why should the apostles risk their lives facing death for the sake of a gospel message that has no promise of life after death.
 - **Remember**: The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing.
 - Illustration: Paul claims that he dies daily for the cause of Christ—that is, he is exposed to death every day.
 - **Illustration:** Paul claims that he fought with beasts at Ephesus, e.g., the human enemies of the gospel were like wild beast in their opposition to Paul.
- THE TRUTH: If there is no resurrection (implying that Christ Himself had not risen), then suffering for the cause of Christ is pointless, useless, and foolish.



• IF THERE IS NO RESURRECTION, WHAT GOOD IS IT TO LIVE GODLY IN OBEDIENCE TO CHRIST?

- THE TEXT: If the dead do not rise, "Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die."
 - This is a quotation of Isaiah 22:13
 - In the context of Isaiah 22:13, the people of Israel should have been repenting in sackcloth at the news of God's judgment through the attack of a foreign power--instead, they were having wild parties in anticipation of death.

- THE TEACHING: If the dead do not rise, there is nothing more to look forward to than the pleasure of this earthly life—this would be the only logical alternative.
 - Warning : Do not be deceived: "Evil company corrupts good habits."
 - Exhortation: Awake to righteousness, and do not sin, e.g., the sin is denying the resurrection.
 - **Rebuke**: For some do not have the knowledge of God, e.g., denying the resurrection is evidence that one does not know God.
- THE TRUTH: If there is no resurrection, only a fool would pursue a life of holiness and service to God.



CHALLENGE:

The Resurrection Affects How You Live!! It Is Affecting How You Live Right Now!!

RECEIVE THE LORD JESUS CHRIST AS YOUR SAVIOUR TODAY!!





- Acknowledge that the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, <u>died</u> on the cross for your sin, and that He <u>arose</u> again from the dead on the third day.
- 2. Admit that you are a sinner, guilty of sin and responsible and accountable to a holy God for your sin, and that you are under His just condemnation and eternal punishment for your sin.
- **3. Affirm** that the Lord Jesus Christ is your Lord and Saviour by **receiving** His provision of salvation through your faith in Him alone.