**1 Corinthians 15 The Resurrection: His and Ours**

**Key Thought:** The validity of our entire faith hinges upon the truth of the resurrection of Jesus.

**The Resurrection of Jesus (15:1-11)**

* The Gospel: Receive it. Stand on it. Be saved by it!
* If you believe the Gospel and don’t firmly hold to it, you have believed in vain.
* The absolute essential elements of the Gospel:

1. Jesus died for our sins
2. He was buried
3. On the third day, he was raised (resurrected)
4. His resurrection was witnessed by many people

* Once again, Paul defends his apostleship.

**The Resurrection of the Dead (15:12-34)**

* The Corinthian struggle continues. Some of them didn’t believe in the resurrection of the dead.
* If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Jesus has not been raised.
* If Jesus has not been raised, our faith and our preaching are useless.
* Time for a big laugh. The Greek word for useless is *kenon*.
* If Jesus has not been raised, we are liars.
* If Jesus has not been raised, we are still in our sins and those who have died in Christ have no hope.
* If Jesus has not been raised, we are most pitiful.
* But Christ has been raised from the dead and he is the first fruits of those who have died.
* First fruits = he sets the pattern for the rest of us.
* As death (sin) came through the first Adam, the resurrection comes through Jesus, the second Adam.
* Christ has been resurrected first. We will be resurrected when he returns.
* Until then, Christ will put all things under his feet, including his enemies.
* The final enemy that will be vanquished will be death.
* When Jesus has placed all things under his feet, he will assume his place with the Father and under the Father’s position.
* Some people practiced “baptism for the dead.” If there is no resurrection, why would someone be baptized for the sake of someone who is dead?
* If there is no resurrection, why should we persevere hardships. Instead, if this life is all there is, why not party hardy?
* Don’t hang out with those who deny the resurrection. That’s a sin.
* **Our Resurrection Bodies** How are the dead raised? **(15:35-58)**
* The example of planted seed. Same, but different.
* Sown perishable. Raised imperishable.
* Sown in dishonor. Raised in glory.
* Sown in weakness. Raised in power.
* Sown a natural body. Raised a spiritual body.
* Our resurrected body will be transformed to fit eternal life.
* We shall one day bear the image of Jesus.
* Order of the resurrection:

1. The last trumpet will sound at the return of Christ
2. The dead will be raised imperishable and we will be changed…in the twinkling of an eye.
3. Death will be defeated because sin will finally be defeated.
4. We will receive the victory through Jesus.

* Therefore, stand firm and continue to work for the Lord.
* YOUR WORK IS NOT IN VAIN. There is something more beyond the grave.