

PENINSULA CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

The Gospel of The Resurrection

Who wants to be a Millionaire?

- Or some other get rich quick show
- All financial hindrances & limitations are over
- What would your perfect life be like?

Now - All **sin hindrances** are eliminated (**ALL**)

- You have a clean, uncorrupted, limitless resource
- What would your perfect life be like now?

What has God revealed perfect life to be?

- What has He promised it will be? **Good News!**
- What was it like before sin corrupted it?

What would you say is the most essential ingredient of the gospel?

- Paul is certain it is the resurrection (**I Corinthians 15:1-19**)

I Corinthians 15:1-2, Moreover, brethren, I declare to you **the gospel** which **I preached** to you, which also **you received** and in which **you stand**, by which also **you are saved**, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you—**unless you believed in vain**.

Let me affirm brothers & sisters...

- The gospel I preached & you received as life giving truth...
- You established your life on as the means of your salvation!
- Unless you were insincere

The gospel is the good news about:

- Christ's incarnation
- His sinless life & sufferings
- His death and burial
- His resurrection

These were all prophesied in God's Word.

15:3-4, For I delivered to you **first of all** that which I also received: that **Christ died for our sins** according to the Scriptures, and that **He was buried**, and that **He rose again the third day** according to the Scriptures,

The resurrection of dead bodies was something distasteful to Greek & pagan cultures

- Today, many who believe in reincarnation, vampires or other supernatural myth,
- Will not believe in resurrection in Christ

15:5-8, and that **He was seen by Cephas**, then by **the twelve**. After that He was seen by **over five hundred brethren at once**, of whom the greater part remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep. **After that** He was seen **by James**, then by **all the apostles**. Then last of all He was seen **by me also**, as by one born out of due time.

The resurrection of Jesus Christ is a verifiable historical fact!

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15:9-11, For I am the least of the apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle (**Matt. 5:3**), because I persecuted the church of God. But **by the grace of God I am what I am**, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me. Therefore, whether it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

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God's grace cancels our sin & qualifies us to represent Him

- *God is glorified by the redemption of those who don't deserve it (**Acts 9:10-15**)*
- *He is glorified by the service of those who used to oppose Him*

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15:12, Now if Christ is preached that He has been raised from the dead, how do some among you say that there is no resurrection of the dead?

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People redeemed from pagan cultures come with contrary former beliefs

- *Even believing Jews had contrary thoughts & arguments*
- *Denial of the resurrection was among the Corinthian believers*

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We don't hide from or dismiss such contrary questions

- *We engage them with the Word of God & loving hearts*
- **Romans 12:2 & 21**

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15:13-14, But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ is not risen. And if Christ is not risen, then our preaching is empty and **your faith is also empty**.

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*Without His resurrection, **There is no faith in Christ!***

- *Preaching & belief are then both of **no eternal value***
- *Christ's resurrection is **absolutely essential!***

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15:15-17, Yes, and we are found false witnesses of God, because we have testified of God that He raised up Christ, whom He did not raise up—if in fact the dead do not rise. For if the dead do not rise, then Christ is not risen. And **if Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins!**

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*If there is **no resurrection**, there is **no gospel**, no good news.*

- *You are as justly condemned as you always were*
- *Let's not banter speculations*

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15:18-19, Then also those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable.

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Rejoicing for my dear friends Rich & Margo Carlson is an empty deception

- *We've all been duped*

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As a follower of Jesus...

- 1) What have you committed to **following Him in?****
- 2) What are you committed to **follow Him through?****
- 3) Where are you committed to **following Him to?****

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What is the Resurrection?

- *Among other things that follow...*
- *Resurrection is the entrance to eternity with Him*
- *Death is the prerequisite to Resurrection*