

PENINSULA CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

For Dead People Only

I Corinthians 15:20-34

(Vs. 17-19), And if Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins! 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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Vs. 20, But now **Christ is risen from the dead**, and has become **the firstfruits** of those who have fallen asleep.

- *Discard empty speculation which ignores historical fact!*
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"Firstfruits" = Original beginning!

- *Jairus' daughter, **Matt. 9:25**, Widow of Nain's son, **Luke 7:15**, Lazarus, **John 11:44***
 - *They were not raised to **eternal life**.*
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*Jesus is the **first & only one** risen to eternal life! (Vs. 5-8)*

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Vs. 21-22, For since by man came death, **by Man** also came the resurrection **of the dead**. For as **in Adam** all die, even so **in Christ** all shall be made alive.

- *Only the dead can be resurrected*
 - ***ALL** are in Adam. All who are **IN Christ** are made alive.*
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Romans 5:18-19, Therefore, as through one man's **offense** judgment came to all men, resulting in condemnation, even so through one Man's **righteous act** the free gift **came to** all men, resulting in justification of life. For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous.

- *Like all gifts, **it must be received & possessed** to be of value*
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*The condemned will be resurrected too; **to eternal dying**, not eternal life*

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John 5:28-29, **Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice and come forth—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.**

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Acts 24:15, I have hope in God, which they themselves also accept, that there will be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and the unjust. *(Paul to Felix)*

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Vs. 23, But each one in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, afterward **those who are Christ's** at His coming.

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Those who are Christ's...

- **Matthew 7:21-23**, "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'"

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Luke 6:46, "But why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do the things which I say?"
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Matthew 12:49-50, And He stretched out His hand toward His disciples and said, "Here are My mother and My brothers! For whoever does the will of My Father in heaven is My brother and sister and mother."
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Those who are Christ's **at His coming**.

- **I Thessalonians 4:15-17**, For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain **until the coming of the Lord** will by no means precede those who are asleep. For **the Lord Himself** will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And **the dead in Christ will rise first. Then** we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. –
(Our resurrection happens **when He returns!**)

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Vs. 24, Then comes the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power.
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Matthew 28:18, And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth."
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John 18:36, Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight... but now My kingdom is not from here."
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Vs. 25-26, For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet. The last enemy that will be destroyed is death.
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The person of Christ isn't all that died on the cross that day

- **Death died that day!!**
- **Isaiah 25:8**, He will swallow up death forever

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Vs. 27-28, For "He has put all things under His feet." But when He says "all things are put under Him," it is evident that He who put all things under Him is excepted. Now when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him, that God may be all in all.
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Christ has always subjected Himself to the Father

- **John 5:19 & 30**, Then Jesus answered and said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do... I can of Myself do nothing... I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me."

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Vs. 29-30, Otherwise, what will they do who are baptized for the dead, if the dead do not rise at all? Why then are they baptized for the dead? And why do we stand in jeopardy every hour?
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This does not support proxy baptisms, a pagan practice by some

- *It would be pointless if there were no resurrection*

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Vs. 31-32, 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? If the dead do not rise, "Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die!"

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Galatians 2:20, I have been crucified with Christ; **it is no longer I who live**, but **Christ lives in me**; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

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Vs. 33-34, Do not be deceived: "Evil company corrupts good habits." Awake to righteousness, and do not sin; for some do not have the knowledge of God. I speak this to your shame.

- **Psalm 1:1**, *Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful*

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Romans 12:2 & 21, And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God... Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

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The resurrection is the entrance to eternity in perfection with Him

- *Our resurrected bodies will be as perfect as He is*
- **I John 3:2**, Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him
- *The resurrection of Christ is the **Full Proof** of the promise of the gospel*