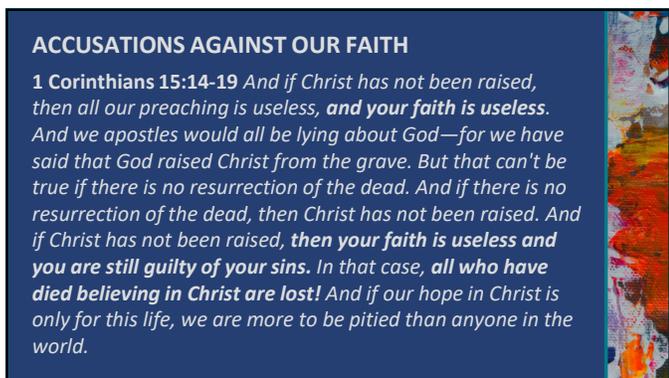


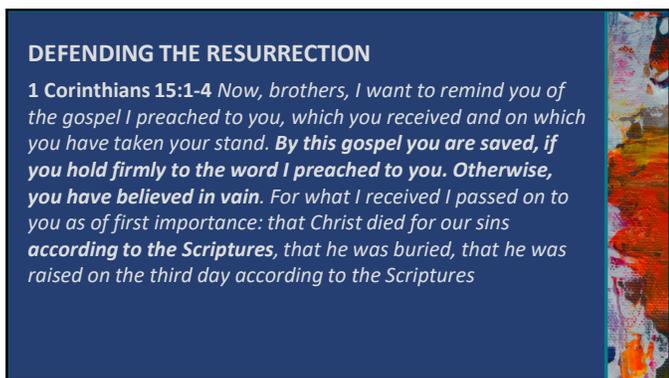
MESSY FAITH
1 Corinthians 15:1-11

1



ACCUSATIONS AGAINST OUR FAITH
1 Corinthians 15:14-19 *And if Christ has not been raised, then all our preaching is useless, **and your faith is useless.** And we apostles would all be lying about God—for we have said that God raised Christ from the grave. But that can't be true if there is no resurrection of the dead. And if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, **then your faith is useless and you are still guilty of your sins.** In that case, **all who have died believing in Christ are lost!** And if our hope in Christ is only for this life, we are more to be pitied than anyone in the world.*

2



DEFENDING THE RESURRECTION
1 Corinthians 15:1-4 *Now, brothers, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. **By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.** For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins **according to the Scriptures**, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures*

3

DEFENDING THE RESURRECTION

Christ died, was buried in a tomb, and was resurrected for our sins according to the Scriptures. IF the message is not true THEN Christ's death was worthless, and those of us who believe in Him are without hope or a future.

However, Christ, as the sinless Son of God who took the punishment of OUR sin by "dying for sin" so that those who believe and receive Jesus as Savior and Lord, **can** have their sins removed.



4

JESUS WAS ONLY UNCONSCIOUS AND LATER REVIVED

Apologetic:

- A Roman soldier told Pilate that Jesus was dead: Mark 15:44-45
- The Roman soldiers did not break Jesus' legs because he had already died, and one of them pierced Jesus' side with a spear: John 19:32-34
- Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus wrapped Jesus' body and placed it in the tomb: John 19:38-40



5

THE WOMEN MADE A MISTAKE GOING TO THE WRONG TOMB

Apologetic:

- Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Jesus saw Jesus placed in the tomb: Matt 27:59-61; Mark 15:47; Luke 23:55
- On Sunday morning, Peter and John also went to the same tomb: John 20:3-9



6

JESUS BODY WAS STOLEN NOT RESURRECTED

1. Unknown **Thieves Stole** Jesus' Body
2. The **Disciples Stole** Jesus' Body
3. The **Religious Leaders Stole** Jesus' Body



7

THE APOLOGETIC FOR THE TRUTH OF THE RESURRECTION

- The tomb was **sealed and guarded** by Roman soldiers and no thief could have gotten through the Roman guards: Matthew 27:65-66
- The disciples were **ready to die for their faith**. Stealing Jesus' body would have meant that their faith was meaningless: Acts 12:2
- If the religious leaders had taken Jesus' body, **they would have produced it** to stop the rumors of his resurrection.



8

JESUS WAS RAISED ON THE 3RD DAY EXACTLY AS PREDICTED

1 Corinthians 15:5-8 He was seen by Peter and then by the twelve apostles. After that, he was seen by more than five hundred of his followers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died by now. Then he was seen by James and later by all the apostles. Last of all, I saw him, too, long after the others, as though I had been born at the wrong time. NLT



9

JESUS' APPEARANCES AFTER HIS RESURRECTION:

- 1. Mary Magdalene: Mark 16:9-11; John 20:11-18
- 2. The other women at the tomb: Matt 28:8-10
- 3. Peter in Jerusalem: Luke 24:34; 1 Cor 15:5
- 4. The two travelers on the road: Mark 16:12-13; Luke 24:13-35
- 5. Ten disciples behind closed doors: Luke 24:36-43; John 20:19-25
- 6. All eleven disciples (Thomas): Mark 16:14; John 20:26-31; 1 Cor 15:5
- 7. Seven disciples while fishing on the sea of Galilee: John 21:1-14
- 8. Eleven disciples on the mountain in Galilee: Matt 28:16-20; Mark 16:15-18
- 9. More than 500 believers: 1 Cor 15:6
- 10. Jesus' brother James: 1 Cor 15:7
- 11. Watching Jesus ascend to heaven: Mk 16:19-20; Lk 24:50-53; Acts 1:3-9



10

GOD'S TRUTH

God's truth is absolute
 God's truth is true regardless of how we feel or think
 God's truth is not dependent on our feelings in order to be true
 God's truth is true even if you disagree or don't believe what is the truth
 God's truth is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow



11

BY GOD'S GRACE

1 Corinthians 15:9-11 For I am the least of all the apostles. In fact, I'm not even worthy to be called an apostle after the way I persecuted God's church. But whatever I am now, it is all because God poured out his special favor on me—and not without results. For I have worked harder than any of the other apostles; yet it was not I but God who was working through me by his grace. So it makes no difference whether I preach or they preach, for we all preach the same message you have already believed.

The truth is that the Lord can **change** the worst of sinners BY GRACE into workers **for** the GRACE OF GOD.



12