

Know what we forget about a lot of time? God has a cosmic plan – We don't see it...there
Do you remember old reel projectors? We are seeing one frame at a time...sees whole thing

Sometimes we need a God perspective...when things get tough, remember the reel

- We get so consumed with the here and now and forget about the there and then
Here's our problem...we don't get to see all the promises of God right now...lose patience
Paul is still addressing the resurrection – Not a single even – grand cosmic victory...enemies

We must not...cannot...forget that just because Jesus hasn't been here in a while...He's done

- When the sun goes down...do we forget that there's a sun? Worried it won't rise?
God = amazing promises...just because we haven't seen them yet, not any less true
Big Idea - The reality of the resurrection is a promise for today and forever

While the resurrection did happen once...it has amazing effects that roll out for all time

Today I'm going to share with us four benefits that come from the resurrection being real

1. **Because the resurrection is real: My future is secure (v20-23)**

- ²⁰But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.
- Reality – Christ has been raised from the dead...fact – Firstfruits = Agricultural term
Firstfruits = Beginning of grain harvest...no grain harvested...thankful for God's provision
Because Christ raised from the dead...there is a harvest of souls all to the glory of God

²¹For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. ²²For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.

Federal Headship = Representative figure | Represented either Adam (Sin) Christ (Salvation)

- In High School I was the class president...I was the representative of the whole class
 - Before your conversion you were represented by Adam in sin and death...broken
 - If you have given your life to Christ...you are now represented by Christ in Salvation
- ²³But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ.
- What a powerful promise...do you see the powerful promise? Promise at second coming
After all of this life is gone...Christ is going to raise us up from the ashes and make us new

Because the grace is empty, I must live with anticipation not despair

Anticipation vs Despair – I have to wait in line at the DMV vs The line for free money
If you are in Christ...you are in the line for the amazing riches! The line still stinks

2. **Because the resurrection is real: My victory is spectacular (v24-28) – O Victory**

- ²⁴Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. ²⁵For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

Victory is spectacular – All things will be restored to the way they were originally designed

- Sin and death will be no more – God will reign supremely, without enemy or challenge
In 2016 the Cubs won the World Series...Lifelong Cubs fan...I won the World Series
- ²⁷For "God has put all things in subjection under his feet." But when it says, "all things are put in subjection," it is plain that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him. ²⁸When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all.

Christ has a job right now? Mediator...sitting next to the Father...protecting us from sin

- One day Jesus will be fired from that job...he will be conqueror – **One day...no mediator**
Jesus will conquer all evil...perfect the world...lay it all at the feet of His Father
Death sin and Satan will come to their end – Jesus will get us to the Father...no mediator

Because the grave is empty, I don't need to live like I'm losing

Christians...right now Satan is making a mess and Christ is going to burn him down

We have nothing to fear but fear itself? Nothing to fear but God Himself

3. **Because the resurrection is real: My courage is solidified (v29-32)**

²⁹Otherwise, what do people mean by being baptized on behalf of the dead? If the dead are not raised at all, why are people baptized on their behalf? – This weird as raises passage of Scripture

- First...let me give you the application – Do not baptize on behalf of the dead – **Mormon**
 - There is no such thing as proxy baptism for salvation...you accept or deny in this life
 - The same people who denied the resurrection were baptizing on behalf of the dead
 - Greeks = Clean - bury their dead with coins under their tongues – Ferry man – Styx
 - They were allowing such 'after death' rituals enter into their Christianity – Don't
- ³⁰Why are we in danger every hour? ³¹I protest, brothers, by my pride in you, which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die every day! ³²What do I gain if, humanly speaking, I fought with beasts at Ephesus?
- Paul has great courage because of the resurrection – willing to be at risk every hour
- Willing to die every day – Even fighting beasts (literal of figurative?)
Why would the United States go to war? To fight a great evil – World War 2
Paul was willing to go to war and die for his belief and faith in the resurrection of Christ
 - How stupid...Paul to die for something he knew was a lie...suffering for suffering sake

Because the grave is empty, I should make the most of my time

If the dead are not raised, "Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die."

If the dead are not raised...it doesn't matter how you spend your time...Stuff And Drunk

But if Christ has raised from the dead...what we do matters...we should have courage

Are you in the war? The war against the principalities of this world for the souls of the lost?

4. **Because the resurrection is real: My lifestyle is sensible (v33-34)**

³³Do not be deceived: "Bad company ruins good morals." ³⁴Wake up from your drunken stupor, as is right, and do not go on sinning. For some have no knowledge of God. I say this to your shame.

- Paul is giving a warning about hanging out with people who would corrupt theology
Are we supposed to have relationships w unbelievers? Yes...but it comes down to influence
- Are you influencing them for righteousness or are they influencing you into sin? CHAIR
Paul is saying...if you believe the resurrection of Christ is a fact...lifestyle makes sense
Do you believe that Christ was raised from the dead? If so...to act like it is sensible
- There were people in the Corinthian Church who claimed Christ and didn't act like it
Wake up from your drunken stupor...sober up...do not go on sinning
Talking about as Elders at our last meeting – **Best for God is best for you**
- The greatest satisfaction you can have in this world is living for God's glory
- People who are not living for God's glory are not living sensible lives...chaotic...doomed
And those people think we are crazy for living the way we live?!?! House of fire...matches
- One of the reasons I'm a Christian is the lifestyle makes sense in the real world
 - One man and one woman raising kids – Do not be addicted to substances
 - Work hard – Take care of those around you – Love your neighbor – Raise your kids
 - Sacrifice for a greater good – Serve your community – Think less of yourself

All of these things are sensible and will lead to a better life

Because the grave is empty, our obedience is joyful

So often we think about Christian obedience as a duty of drudgery

- I want you to remember that obedience to the Lord is a joy...because it brings joy!
The resurrection has now given us purpose in our existence...enjoy it to the fullest
In the beginning I said we are just one frame in a reel that God sees the entire film

LIVE YOUR FRAME TO THE FULLEST

There are incredible benefits from the resurrection...now and forever