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**1 Corinthians 15:1-11 (CSB)**  
<sup>1</sup> Now I want to make clear for you, brothers and sisters, the gospel I preached to you, which you received, on which you have taken your stand <sup>2</sup>and by which you are being saved, if you hold to the message I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.

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**1 Corinthians 15:1-11 (CSB)**  
<sup>3</sup> For I passed on to you as most important what I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, <sup>4</sup>that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,

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**1 Corinthians 15:1-11 (CSB)**

<sup>5</sup> and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the Twelve.

<sup>6</sup> Then he appeared to over five hundred brothers and sisters at one time; most of them are still alive, but some have fallen asleep.

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**1 Corinthians 15:1-11 (CSB)**

<sup>7</sup> Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles

<sup>8</sup> Last of all, as to one born at the wrong time, he also appeared to me.

<sup>9</sup> For I am the least of the apostles, not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.

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**1 Corinthians 15:1-11 (CSB)**

<sup>10</sup> But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me.

<sup>11</sup> Whether, then, it is I or they, so we proclaim and so you have believed.

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**Psalm 18:19 (CSB)**

He brought me out to a *spacious place*; he *rescued* me because he delighted in me.

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7

**Matthew 11:28-29 (NLT)**

<sup>28</sup> Then Jesus said, "Come to me, all of you who are *weary and carry heavy burdens*, and I will give you rest.

<sup>29</sup> Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find *rest for your souls*.

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8

**John 14:6 (CSB)**

Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

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**John 5:24 (CSB)**

“Truly I tell you, anyone who hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not come under judgment but has passed from death to life.”

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The ultimate validation of all of Christ’s claims is the resurrection.

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**1 Corinthians 15:1-2 (CSB)**

<sup>1</sup> Now I want to make clear for you, brothers and sisters, the **gospel** I preached to you, which you **received**, on which you have **taken your stand** <sup>2</sup> and by which you are **being saved**, if you hold to the message I preached to you—unless you **believed in vain**.

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The gospel has saving power.

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**1 Corinthians 15:3-4 (CSB)**  
<sup>3</sup> For I passed on to you as most important what I also received: that Christ **died** for our sins according to the Scriptures,  
<sup>4</sup> that he was **buried**, that he was **raised on the third day** according to the Scriptures,

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**Isaiah 53:7-8 (CSB)**

<sup>7</sup> He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth. Like a lamb led to the *slaughter* and like a sheep silent before her shearers, he did not open his mouth.

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16

**Isaiah 53:7-8 (CSB)**

<sup>8</sup> He was taken away because of oppression and judgment, and who considered his fate? For he was cut off from the land of the living...

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17

**Isaiah 53:9 (CSB)**

He was *assigned a grave* with the wicked, but he was with a rich man at his death, because he had done no violence and had not spoken deceitfully.

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18

**Psalm 16:10 (CSB)**

You will not allow your faithful one to see *decay*.

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19

**1 Corinthians 15:1-11 (CSB)**

<sup>5</sup> and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the Twelve.

<sup>6</sup> Then he appeared to over *five hundred* brothers and sisters at one time; most of them are still alive, but some have fallen asleep.

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**1 Corinthians 15:7 (CSB)**

Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles.

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**1 Corinthians 15:8-9 (CSB)**

<sup>8</sup> Last of all, as to one born at the wrong time, he also appeared to me.

<sup>9</sup> For I am the least of the apostles, **not worthy** to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.

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“The bridge of grace will bear your weight, friend. Thousands of big sinners have gone across that bridge, yea, hundreds of thousands have gone over it...”

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Some have been the chief of sinners and some have come at the very last of their days but the arch has never yielded beneath their weight. I will go with them trusting to the same support. It will bear me over as it has for them.”

~ Charles Spurgeon

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24



**1 Corinthians 15:10-14 (CSB)**

<sup>10</sup> But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me.  
<sup>11</sup> Whether, then, it is I or they, so we proclaim and so you have believed.

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**1 Corinthians 15:10-14 (CSB)**

<sup>12</sup> Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say, "There is no resurrection of the dead"?

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**1 Corinthians 15:10-14 (CSB)**

<sup>13</sup> If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised;  
<sup>14</sup> and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation is in vain, and so is your faith.

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"If Jesus rose from the dead, then you have to accept all that he said; if he didn't rise from the dead, then why worry about any of what he said? The issue on which everything hangs is not whether or not you like his teaching but whether or not he rose from the dead."

~ Tim Keller

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**John 8:32 (CSB)**

"You will know the *truth*, and the *truth* will set you *free*."

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**1 Corinthians 15:15-19 (CSB)**

<sup>15</sup> Moreover, we are found to be false witnesses about God, because we have testified wrongly about God that he raised up Christ—whom he did not raise up, if in fact the dead are not raised.

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**1 Corinthians 15:15-19 (CSB)**

<sup>16</sup> For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised.

<sup>17</sup> And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins.

<sup>18</sup> Those, then, who have fallen asleep in Christ have also perished.

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**1 Corinthians 15:15-19 (CSB)**

<sup>19</sup> If we have put our hope in Christ for this life only, we should be pitied more than anyone.

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32

**1 Corinthians 15:20 (CSB)**

**But** as it is, Christ has been raised from the dead, the **firstfruits** of those who have fallen asleep.

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33

**1 Corinthians 15:21-22 (CSB)**

<sup>21</sup> For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead also comes through a man.

<sup>22</sup> For just as in Adam all die, so also in Christ ***all will be made alive.***

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34

**Revelation 20:14 (CSB)**

***Death*** and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second ***death***, the lake of fire.

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Death is dead because  
Jesus is alive!

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**Hebrews 2:14-15 (CSB)**  
14 Now since the children have flesh and blood in common, Jesus also shared in these, so that through his death he might destroy the one holding the power of death—that is, the devil—

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**Hebrews 2:14-15 (CSB)**  
15 and **free** those who were held in **slavery all their lives by the fear of death.**

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“Many will miss heaven by 18 inches, the distance from their head to their heart. They know about Christ, but do not know Him. You can be religious but lost. You can have the Bible in your head, but not have Christ in your heart.”

~ Steven Lawson

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“If the tomb wasn’t empty, I would be.  
If the tomb wasn’t empty, our hope would be.  
If the tomb wasn’t empty, our hearts would be.  
Only because the tomb is empty,  
can life be fulfilling.”

~ Ann Voskamp

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