

1 Corinthians 15 Pt 1 vv 1-34

Jesus

1 Corinthians 14:36 ...did the word of God come originally from you? Or was it you only that it reached? 37 If anyone thinks himself to be a prophet or spiritual, let him acknowledge that **the things which I write to you are the commandments of the Lord.**

Correction Letter
Get back to Basics

I. The Gospel

1 Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the **gospel** which I preached to you, which also **you received** and in which you **stand** 2 by which also you are **saved**...

Gospel/Good News
You Received it/You Stand in it/You are Saved by it...

2b ...if you hold fast that word which I preached to you —unless you believed in vain. 3 For I delivered to you first of all that which **I also received**: that **Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures**, 4 and that **He was buried**, and that **He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures**...

One True Gospel the Saves: According to the OT Scriptures:
Psalm 22/Isaiah52-53/ Jonah 1/Genesis 22

- Christ died for our sins
- Christ was buried
- Christ rose again the 3rd Day: Jonah 3 days in fish/Gen 22
 1. 3 Day journey to Mt. Moriah
 2. Isaac dead in His Father's eyes
 3. The LORD will provide [future tense]
 4. God provided Himself a Sacrifice

True Gospel according to the Scriptures: Died/Buried/Rose. All Jesus
Salvation by Grace Alone though Faith Alone in Christ Alone

The Greatest Exchange
Our filthy stinking gross putrid sin for Christ's perfect righteousness/beauty

Let this be to you the mark of true Gospel preaching - where *Christ is everything*, and the *creature is nothing*; where it is salvation all of grace, through the work of the Holy Spirit applying to the soul the precious blood of Jesus...Seek that Gospel which rips up and tears and cuts and wounds and hacks and even kills, for *that is the Gospel that makes alive again*. And when you have found it, give good heed to it. Let it enter into your inmost being. As the rain soaks into the ground, so *pray the Lord to let his Gospel soak into your soul*. [Spurgeon]

Many False Gospels: Paul pulls no punches...

Galatians 1:6 I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a **different gospel**, 7 which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. 8 But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. 9 As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed ...**11** But I make known to you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. 12 For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ.

As Christ has a Gospel, Satan has a gospel too; the latter being a clever counterfeit of the former. So closely does the gospel of Satan resemble that which it parades, multitudes of the unsaved are deceived by it. ...In contradistinction to the Gospel of Christ, the gospel of Satan teaches salvation by works. [Pink]

False Gospels Pervert the True Gospel in 3 Main Areas
Person of Christ/Work of Christ/Judgment of Christ

1. **Person of Christ:** Less than God. *Salvation Issue*
2. **Work of Christ:** Less than Sufficient. *Salvation issue*
3. **Judgment of Christ:** Less than Eternal

John 8:24 [Person] ...I said to you that you will die in your sins; for if you do not believe that **I AM** you will die in your sins. Exodus 3:14

What should I say when they ask Your Name?
I AM WHO I AM

John 19:30 [Work] ...He said, "**It is finished!**" And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.

1 Timothy 3:16 And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: **God was manifested in the flesh, Justified in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Preached among the Gentiles, Believed on in the world, Received up in glory.**

Justified: gr. *dikaioō* Lit. to render righteous or such he ought to be. to show one to be righteous, such as he is and wishes himself to be considered

The Gospel of Grace was Vindicated/Validated by God
Jesus resurrection was proof God the Father accepted His sacrifice for us

... **5** and that He was seen by **Cephas**, then by **the twelve**. 6 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. 7 After that **He was seen by James**, then by all the apostles.

Acts 1:3 [Apostles] ...whom He also **presented Himself alive** after His suffering by many infallible proofs, being seen by them during **forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God.**

- Witnesses to the Resurrected Christ

1. Peter
2. 12 inc. Peter
3. James Jesus ½ brother

John 7:5 For even His brothers [James/Jude/Simon] did not believe in Him. [Until after seeing resurrected Jesus]

500 are still alive that saw/spoke to/heard the resurrected Jesus! Go ask them
Paul says BTW I saw Him too!

**8 Then last of all He was seen by me also, as by one born out of due time.
9 For I am the least of the apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.**

Persecuted: gr. *dee-o'-ko* lit. to make to run or flee, put to flight, drive away. Run swiftly in order to catch a person or thing, to run after

There are worse kinds of sin. Sins that harm God's people are especially grievous in God's eyes. Are you guilty, now or in the past, of harming God's people? [Guzik] Paul was...

I am the least of the apostles
As Jesus got bigger Paul got smaller. He must increase I must decrease. Paul: Heb.
Small

1 Corinthians 15:9 For I am the **least of the apostles...**

Ephesians 3:8 To me, who am less than the **least of all the saints**, this grace was given... that I should preach...the unsearchable riches of Christ...

1 Timothy 1:15 This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save **sinners, of whom I am chief.**

- Persecuted the Bride of Christ
 1. Voted to stone
 2. Held the coats
 3. Wreaked havoc on Jesus' Church

Saul, Saul why are you persecuting Me?
I am not worthy to be called an apostle...

10 But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain

God's Grace: Undeserved Favor/Unmerited Kindness. Not by our worth but His love
Not worthy of being called an apostle...but I am an Apostle

I am not who I think I am. I am not who others think I am. I am not who I believe others think I am...

...I am who God says I am

By His grace I am what I am...I will not waste but walk in who He says I am

10b ...[so] I labored more abundantly than they all [Apostles], yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me. 11 Therefore, whether it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

I am the Least of the Apostles
Therefore I worked more than all of them!

Luke 7:47 [Woman caught in the act of adultery. Jesus to the Religious Leaders...] Therefore I say to you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven, for she loved much. But to whom little is forgiven, the same loves little."

Those who have been forgiven much love much
We have all been forgiven much. Now what?

Realize you are who God says you are. Period

By God's grace I am what I am...I will not waste, but walk, in who *He* says I am

What am I? I am a child of God Romans 8:16 I am saved by grace through faith Ephesians 2:8 I am redeemed from the hand of the adversary Psalms 107:2 I am an heir of eternal life 1 John 5:11- 12 I am forgiven Ephesians 1:7 I am led by the Spirit of God Romans 8:14 I am a new creature 2 Corinthians 5:17 I am redeemed from the curse of the law Galatians 3:13 I am carried through by God Himself Isaiah 46:4 I am strong in the Lord and in His mighty power Ephesians 6:10 I am living by faith and not by sight 2 Corinthians 5:7 I am rescued from the dominion of darkness Colossians 1:13 I am justified Romans 3:1 I am an heir of God and a co-heir with Christ Romans 8:17 I am blessed with every spiritual blessing Ephesians 1:3 I am an overcomer by the blood of the Lamb and the word of my testimony Revelation 12:11 I am the light of the world Matthew 5:14 I am an imitator of God, as a beloved child, to walk in Jesus' love Ephesians 5:1 I am healed by His wounds 1 Peter 2:24 I am being transformed by the renewing of my mind Romans 12:2 I am heir to the blessings of Abraham Galatians 3:14 I do all things through Christ who strengthens me Philippians 4:13 I am more than a conqueror Rom 8:37 I am blameless and free from accusation Colossians 1:22 Christ, Himself, is in me Colossians 1:27 I am firmly rooted in Jesus and I am being built up in Him. Colossians 2:7 I have been made complete in Jesus Colossians 2:10 I have been spiritually circumcised, my old unregenerate nature has been removed Colossians 2:10-13 I have been buried, raised and made alive in Jesus Colossians 2:12,13 I died with Christ and I have been raised up with Christ. My life is now hidden with Christ in God. Christ is now my life. Colossians 3:1- 3 I am chosen of God, holy and dearly loved Colossians 3:12; 1 Thessalonians 1:4 I am a son of light and not of darkness 1 Thessalonians 5:5 I have been given a spirit of power, love and self-discipline 2 Timothy 1:7 I have been saved and set apart according to God's doing 2 Timothy 1:9; Titus 3:5 Because I am sanctified and I am one with the Sanctifier, He is not ashamed to call me brother Hebrews 2:11 I am a holy partaker of a heavenly calling. Hebrews 3:1 I have the right to come boldly before the Throne of God to find mercy and grace in time of need. Hebrews 4:16 I have been born again 1 Peter 1:23 I am a living stone, being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ 1 Peter 2:5 I am a member of a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession. 1 Peter 2:9,10 I am an alien and stranger 1 Peter 2:11 I am an enemy of the devil 1 Peter 5:8 I have been given exceedingly great and precious promises by God by which I am a partaker of God's divine nature. 2 Peter 1:4 I am forgiven on account of Jesus' name 1 John 2:12 I am anointed by God 1 John 2:27 I am a child of God 1 John 3:1,2 I am loved 1 John 4:10 I have life 1 John 5:12 I am born of God, and the evil one... the devil... cannot touch me. 1 John 5:18 I have been redeemed Revelation 5:9 My sinful nature, in Jesus, has been healed Isaiah 53:5 I am the salt of the earth Matthew 5:13 I am the light of the world Matthew 5:14 I am commissioned to make disciples Matthew 28:19,20 I am a child of God John 1:12 I have eternal life John 3:16 I have been given peace John 14:27 I am part of the true vine John 15:1-5 I am clean John 15:3 I am Jesus' friend John 15:15 I am chosen and appointed by Jesus to bear fruit John 15:16 I have been given glory, I am one with Jesus John 17:22 I have been justified Romans 5:1 I died with Christ and died to the power of sin's rule over my life. Romans 6:1- 6 I am a slave of righteousness. Romans 6:18 I am free from sin and enslaved to God Romans 6:22 I am free from condemnation Romans 8:1 I am a son of God Romans 8:14- 15, Galatians 3:26; Galatians 4:6 I am a joint heir with Christ Romans 8:17 I am more than a conqueror through Christ who loves me. Romans 8:37 I am given faith Romans 12:3 I have been sanctified and called to holiness 1 Corinthians 1:2 I have been given grace 1 Corinthians 1:4 I have been placed into Christ by God's doing. 1 Corinthians 1:30 I have received the Spirit of God into my life, that I might know the things given to me by God 1 Corinthians 2:12 I have been given the mind of Christ 1 Corinthians 2:16 I am a temple, a dwelling place of God. His Spirit and His Life dwell in me. 1 Corinthians 3:16; 1 Corinthians 6:19 I am united to the Lord and I am one in spirit with Him 1 Corinthians 6:17 I am bought with a price, I am not my own, I belong to God 1 Corinthians 6:19-20; 1 Corinthians 7:23 I am called 1 Corinthians 7:17 I am a member of Christ's body 1 Corinthians 12:27; Ephesians 5:30 I am victorious 1 Corinthians 15:57 I have been established, anointed and sealed by God in Christ, and I have been given to the Holy Spirit as a pledge guaranteeing my inheritance to come. 2 Corinthians 1:21; Ephesians 1:13-14 I am led by God in Triumphant procession 2 Corinthians 2:14 I am a fragrance of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing 2 Corinthians 2:15 I am being changed into the likeness of Jesus 2 Corinthians 3:18 I no longer live for myself, but for He who died and rose again on my behalf 2 Corinthians 5:14- 15 I am a new creation 2 Corinthians 5:17 I am reconciled to God and I am a minister of reconciliation. 2 Corinthians 5:18-19 I have been made righteous 2 Corinthians 5:21 I am well content with weaknesses,...; for when I am weak, then I am strong 2 Corinthians 12:10 I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; Galatians 2:20 I am a son of God through faith in Christ Jesus. Galatians 3:26 I am Abraham's seed, and heir of the

promise from God Galatians 3:29 I am no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God. Galatians 4:6-7 I am a saint Ephesians 1:1; 1 Corinthians 1:2; Philippians 1:1; Colossians 1:2 I am blessed with every spiritual blessing Ephesians 1:3 I was chosen in Him before the foundation of the world, that I would be holy and blameless before Him Ephesians 1:4 I am adopted as a son through Jesus Christ to Himself, Ephesians 1:5 I am sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, Ephesians 1:13 I am alive together with Christ Ephesians 2:5 I have been raised up with Him, and seated with Him in heaven Ephesians 2:6 I am His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works Ephesians 2:10 I am a fellow citizen with the saints, and I am of God's household Ephesians 2:19 I have access in one Spirit to the Father. Ephesians 2:18 I have boldness and confident access to God through faith in Him. Ephesians 3:12 My citizenship is in heaven; seated with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus Philippians 3:20, Ephesians 2:6 I am capable Philippians 4:13 I have been rescued from the domain of darkness, and transferred to the kingdom of His beloved Son Colossians 1:13 I have been redeemed Colossians 1:14 I am better than I deserve Psalm 103:10-12

Epicurean Philosophy had crept into the church
Manifested in denying the Resurrection/Afterlife and Leading to Hedonism in the church

I.e. Eat and Drink for tomorrow we die and that's it. **But that's not it...**

II. The Risen Christ

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?**

How important is it to believe Jesus rose from the dead?
Salvation Issue. 1) His Person. 2) His Work. 3) *His Resurrection*

Romans 10:9 ... if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that **God has raised Him from the dead,** you will be saved.

Q. Who raised Jesus from the dead?
Father, Son or Holy Spirit ? **A.** Yes

Galatians 1:1 [Father] Paul, an apostle not from men nor through man, but through Jesus Christ and **God the Father who raised Him from the dead...**

John 2:19 [Son] "Destroy this temple, and in three days **I will raise it up.**" 20 Then the Jews said, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will You raise it up in three days?" 21 But He was **speaking of the temple of His body.**

Romans 8:11 [Holy Spirit] But if [since] **the Spirit of Him** who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

One God Three Persons
Easily Apprehended in Scripture. Comprehended? Not so much

Some in the Church of God in Corinth were denying any resurrection/life after death
This is a Salvation Issue as Paul demonstrates...

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

If no one rises from the dead...

1. Jesus did not rise

2. Your dead relatives did not rise
3. You will not rise
4. My preaching/Your faith is in vain/ empty and we are liars...

15 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. 16 For if the dead do not rise, then Christ is not rise. 17 And **if** Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins!

If Jesus did not rise we are still in our sins
It would mean Jesus sacrifice was rejected by the Father and *the way is shut*

Your faith is futile. Lit. useless. Of no purpose
Penalty for you sin falls back on you! You are still damned

18 Then also **those who have fallen asleep** [died] in Christ have **perished**.

You, Your friends, relatives, those you witnessed to
Separated from God forever

19 **If** in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the **most pitiable**. [lit. Miserable]

2 Corinthians 11:23b ...in labors more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequently, in deaths often. 24 From the Jews five times I received forty stripes minus one. 25 Three times I was beaten with rods; once I was stoned; three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I have been in the deep; 26 in journeys often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils of my own countrymen, in perils of the Gentiles, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; 27 in weariness and toil, in sleeplessness often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness— 28 besides the other things, what comes upon me daily: my deep concern for all the churches. 29 Who is weak, and I am not weak? Who is made to stumble, and I do not burn with indignation?

If our hope in Christ ends in this life and then we are lost
We all are to be most pitied..."if" 5X

IV. The Enemy Destroyed

20 **But now Christ is risen from the dead**, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

Christ is risen from the dead. Hallelujah!
Mission accomplished/Death overcome

In Adam all died. We are born dead in sin.
We don't have to stay dead...

21 For since by [the first man Adam] **came death**, by Man [Jesus the last Adam] also came the **resurrection of the dead**. 22 For as **in Adam all die even so in Christ all shall be made alive ...** [C.f. Rom 5]

Dead in Adam/Alive in Christ

Ephesians 2:1 And you He made alive, who were **dead in trespasses and sins**, 2 in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, 3 among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others. 4 But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, 5 even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), 6 and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, 7 that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. 8 For **by grace you have been saved through faith**, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast. 10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

Made alive in Christ

Jesus first/Then those who die here/Then those at Rapture

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. 25 For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet. 26 The **last enemy that will be destroyed is death**. 27 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. 28 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.

[*All things under Him*] Paul reminds us that the Son will not someday be superior to the Father. The relationship of Father to Son will be eternal [*That God may be all in all*] Here, Paul refers to God the Son's desire to glorify God the Father through all eternity. Importantly, each person of the Trinity desires to glorify another person of the Trinity. The Son glorifies the Father, the Father glorifies the Son, and the Holy Spirit glorifies the Son. [Guzik]

Death is a word not heard in Eternity

When all things become/remains as they are supposed to be

After the Rapture/After Jesus 1000 yr. Reign on Earth
God will destroy His/our last enemy death...Forever.

The resurrection validates our sure hope of life after death
Jesus rose from the dead/Thus so do all those in Christ

29 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?** 30 And **why do we stand in jeopardy every hour?**

Why are you so worried about what happens after death if there is no afterlife?
Why make up weird ceremonies like *baptizing for the dead*?

Paul: I know there is an afterlife ...and I live like it
Matter of fact: I am willing to suffer/die for what I believe...

31 I affirm, by the **boasting in you** which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, **I die daily**. [Here his physical life] 32 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!"**

No Resurrection/No Judgment?
Who are you listening to? What are you listening to? How has it changed you?

33 **Do not be deceived:** "Evil company corrupts good habits." 34 **Awake to righteousness, and do not sin;** for some do not have **the knowledge of God.**

Wake up! You are being brainwashed *listening to stupid people*
Stop hanging out with/listening to people w/no knowledge of God

- Pseudo Christian Podcasts
- Self-Help gurus
- Worldly wise friends/family
- Take care of number one
- Question all authority
- God is a god of love
- You are a victim w/right to bitterness
- You deserve more. Eat, drink for tomorrow we die. And that's it. But that ain't it

The people you're listening *do not know Jesus*
Constant need for more of their salt water as your soul dries up

34b ...I speak this to your shame.

You listen to people who don't know Jesus talk about Jesus
You want to know about Jesus but refuse to come to Jesus as your Lord

Matthew 11:28 Come to Me all you who labor and are heavy laden, and **I will give you rest.**

John 5:38 But you do not have His word abiding in you, because whom He sent, Him you do not believe. 39 You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which **testify of Me.** 40 but you are **not willing to come to Me that you may have life.**

Are you Tired? Come to Jesus
That you may find rest and have life