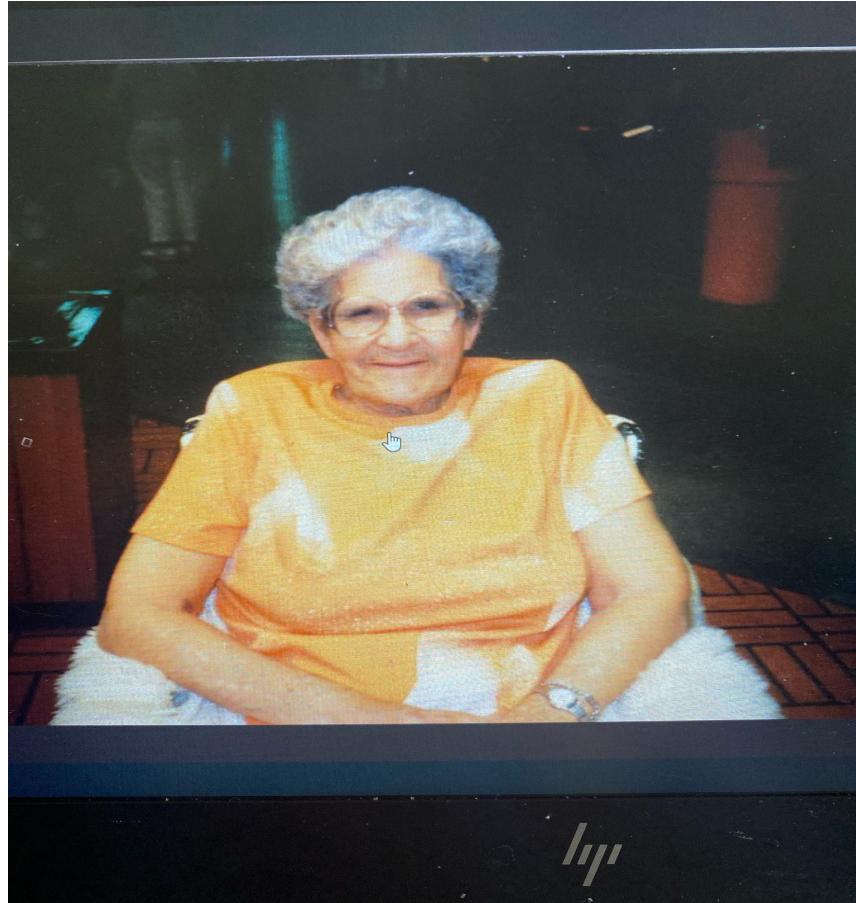


What IF?



1 Corinthians 15:12-22





Vs. 12 “How can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead?”

The Sadducees:

- Rejected both the continued existence of the soul after death and the physical resurrection of the dead.
- Only believed in the Torah (First 5 books of the Bible)!

If Jesus didn't rise again from the dead...

- We preach in vain
- Our faith is dead
- All the witnesses and preachers of the resurrection would be liars
- Our sins have not been forgiven
- Those who have passed away with faith in Jesus have perished
- Those who are in Christ are the most pitied.

1. IF Jesus didn't Rise Again From the Dead our Preaching would be in vain.

- How much time in your life have you sat in church listening to gospel preaching?
- There was NEVER a moment listening to the teaching of the Word of God that was wasted!

2. IF Jesus didn't Rise Again From the Dead then Our Faith is in Vain

What is Biblical/Saving Faith?

- Putting one's trust in someone; it's a strong confidence and reliance upon someone
- Putting our trust and reliance upon Jesus!

Are there areas in your life right now that you are lacking biblical faith?

- Areas that you are withholding from Jesus?
- Areas that you are not submitting to Him?
- Areas that are lacking in trust that He can show up and do those things only He can do?

3. IF Jesus didn't Rise Again From the Dead then the Apostles are Liars

- Paul and the disciples are spreading the message of Jesus to the outermost parts of the known world.
- Their Message is this: Jesus is the Messiah who died for the forgiveness of sins and rose again from the dead.
- IF Jesus didn't rise from the dead these men would have known it.

Acts 26:9-11

“I myself was convinced that I ought to do many things in opposing the name of Jesus of Nazareth. 10 And I did so in Jerusalem. I not only locked up many of the saints in prison after receiving authority from the chief priests, but when they were put to death I cast my vote against them. 11 And I punished them often in all the synagogues and tried to make them blaspheme, and in raging fury against them I persecuted them even to foreign cities.”