

I. Introduction: Paul explained to the Corinthians that believing in the resurrection was critical because if Jesus didn't rise from the grave, then there were massive implications.

- A. Everything in Christianity hinges on whether Jesus rose from the grave. If Jesus didn't rise from the grave, then there is no salvation from sin and no hope of heaven.

II. What If There Was No Resurrection? (1 Cor 15:12-19).

- A. Our Savior is Slain (vv. 12-13).
- B. Our Preaching is Pointless (v. 14a).
- C. Our Faith is Futile (vv. 14b; 17).
- D. Our Testimony is Tainted (v. 15).
- E. Our Sin is Sovereign (v. 17).
- F. Our Departed are Doomed (v. 18).
- G. Our Lives are Laughable (v. 19).

III. Conclusion: Paul argued that the resurrection is of primary importance because if Jesus did not rise from death, then our lives are pitiable, and we were fools to believe in Him.

Questions About: What If There Was No Resurrection?

1. Why is the resurrection critical to Christianity? Why does everything hinge on the resurrection? What would happen if Jesus didn't rise from death? (**1 Cor 15:12-19**)
2. Why did the Greeks not believe in resurrection? (**Acts 17:16-21, 32-34**) What was the first implication of not believing in the resurrection? (**1 Cor 15:12-13**) Why is this important?
3. How did the resurrection affect preaching? (**1 Cor 15:14**) How central was the resurrection to the Apostles' teaching? (**1 Cor 15:1-4; Acts 4:1-2**) Why was it so critical to them?
4. Why did Paul say that rejecting the resurrection undermines faith? (**1 Cor 15:14, 17**) Are you persuaded by culture? What does your culture say about history? Creation? Sex? Gender?
5. Why did Paul say that he and the other Apostles were false witnesses if the resurrection wasn't real? (**1 Cor 15:15**) Why did he say that their testimony would contradict God's?
6. Why did Paul say they were still in their sins if Jesus had not risen? (**1 Cor 15:17**) How did the cross pay for sin? (**John 19:30**) How did the resurrection prove it? (**Rom 6:3-11**)
7. What happened to deceased saints if Christ did not rise from death? (**1 Cor 15:18**) How did Christ conquer death through His resurrection? (**1 Cor 15:55-58**)
8. What is the end result if one doesn't believe in the resurrection? (**1 Cor 15:19**) Do you believe in the resurrection of Jesus? Why is this the critical question for mankind?

Prayer

1. Pray and ask God to reveal to you the significance of the resurrection today.
2. Pray and ask God to show you how you can be freed from sin and death through Jesus Christ.