

I. Introduction: Paul told the Corinthians that Jesus' resurrection won the victory over death so that they could stand firm upon God's promise and live for Him in this world.

II. Jesus' Victory Over Death (1 Cor 15:50-58).

A. Its Timing (vv. 50-53).

1. Paul explained to the Corinthians that their earthly bodies would be transformed into a more glorious form when Jesus returns at the last trumpet.

B. Its Triumph (vv. 54-56).

1. Paul mocked death as a powerless adversary that Jesus had destroyed because His vicarious payment had completely swallowed up humanity's greatest enemy.

C. Its Thanksgiving (v. 57).

1. Paul testified that it was because of Jesus' substitutionary death on the cross for our sins, that we should praise God for giving us the victory over the grave.

D. Its Task (v. 58).

1. Paul encouraged the Corinthians to stand firm on the promise of their resurrection and to continue to abound in the work of the Lord until Jesus returns.

III. Conclusion: Paul challenged the Corinthians to remain steadfast and to abound in the work of the Lord so that when Jesus returned they would receive a reward.

Questions About: Jesus' Victory Over Death

1. If you died tonight would it be a celebration or a tragedy? Hope or despair? Are you so entangled with the world that the worst thing would be death? (**1 John 2:15-17**)
2. What did Paul mean that “flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God”? (**1 Cor 15:50**) What was the mystery that Paul told the Corinthians? (**1 Cor 15:51**) Why was this a mystery?
3. Why did Paul say that they would not all “sleep”? (**1 Cor 15:51-53**) What was he saying? (**1 Cor 11:30; John 11:11**) When would they be resurrected? (**v. 52**) How quickly? (**v. 52**)
4. What was the victory that Paul promised the Corinthians? (**1 Cor 15:54-56**) What verses did Paul quote? How will Jesus one day swallow up death in victory? (**Rev 20:11-15**)
5. What did Paul mean that death had lost its sting? (**1 Cor 15:55-56**) What was the sting of death? (**v. 56**) How do believers overcome sin? (**Rev 12:11**) What happens when a Christian dies?
6. What response should Christians have toward Jesus? (**1 Cor 15:57**) How has Jesus won the victory for us? (**Rom 5:1; Gal 3:13; Eph 1:7; Col 2:14**) Are you thankful for His sacrifice?
7. What was Paul's challenge to the Corinthians because of Jesus' victory? (**1 Cor 15:58**) What did Paul mean by steadfast? Immovable? Are you tempted to compromise? Bend to the culture?
8. What did Paul tell the Corinthians to abound in? (**1 Cor 15:58**) Why did he tell them their work was not in vain? (**v. 58**) Do you feel like giving up? Why is it critical to never give up?

Prayer

1. Pray God would help you to appreciate the sacrifice Jesus made to win you the victory.
2. Ask God to give you an unceasing passion to see sinners turn to Jesus from their sins.