

04.15.18

## The Message of the Ambassador

1 Corinthians 15:1-5

Intro: Paul begins the passage with a “reminder.” (1-3a)

### The Bad News

#### 1. We are sinners

- Our world has a hard time with this one. Whether it's the pride or relativity of our culture.

- Romans 5:12, 1 Corinthians 15:21, Romans 3:23, Isaiah 53:6

#### 2. Sin requires death

- Given that sin is breaking God's law, there is a great consequence.

- James 1:15, Romans 6:23

#### 3. We cannot save ourselves

- The truth gets darker and darker. Not only are we sinners, but we are dead. Unable to save ourselves.

- Ephesians 2:1-3, 8, Colossians 2:13

-- We must deal with the badness of the bad news in order for the goodness of the good news to shine.

- Greg Gilbert: “If we approach the Gospel thinking that sin is something else or something less than what it really is, we will badly misunderstand the Good News of Jesus Christ.” (*What is the Gospel?*)

### The Good News

#### 1. Christ Died for Our Sins

- Isaiah 53:4-6

- Christ gave himself for us. John 10:11, Isaiah 53:10

- While we were sinners. Ephesians 2:4,5, Romans 5:8

## 2. Christ was Buried

- To prove he was dead
- The picture in Baptism. Christ's burial gives us the chance to be buried with him.
  - o Romans 6:4, Col. 2:12
- Many prophecies told of these events. Hosea 6:2
- He had to be buried in order to prove he was dead, but also to prep the way for the resurrection.

## 3. Christ was Raised from the Dead

- To prove that the sacrifice for our sins was accepted. This is why we focus on Christ "being raised." It is not inaccurate to say that Christ rose from the dead, but it is clearer to consider him raised.
  - o 1 Cor. 15:16-21
- Peter, preaching at Pentecost: Acts 2:24
- The hope of this element: 1 Timothy 4:10

## 4. Christ Appeared to Many

- To prove he was alive
- He sat with them, he ate with them, and let them touch him.
  - o Luke 24:46-47, John 20:19-21
- The influence of the Risen Christ was seen in the actions of the Apostles. Instead of giving up on the supposed savior that was killed, they were inspired to suffer for what they would preach because of the risen Savior.
- His appearing served as the springboard for the Great Commission.
  - o Matthew 28:16-20

## Conclusion:

- The Gospel is our foundation. (15:1)
- This is the message that has been entrusted to us.
  - o 2 Corinthians 5:18-20
- Are you being a good steward of what has been entrusted to you?