

1 Corinthians 15:58

Steadfast and Immovable in the Resurrection

WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?

Main Idea of the Sermon: The resurrection of Jesus and his followers is true. We must believe it and be saved. We must abound in the work of the Lord.

Melodic Line of the Book: The gospel is not just moral advice, but an announcement about Jesus that opens up a whole new reality. "For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, and then to the Twelve" (1 Cor. 15:3-5).

STRUCTURE/OUTLINE OF THE SERMON

- I. Introduction
- II. 1 Corinthians in General
- III. Lonely Lament
- IV. 1 Corinthians 15:58
 - A. Close Context
 - B. Beloved Brothers and Sisters
 - C. Be steadfast and immovable.
 - D. Abounding in the work of the Lord!
 - E. Knowing that in the Lord our labor is not in vain.
- V. Steadfast and Immovable Resurrection Hope

GOSPEL CENTRALITY

Jesus died. Jesus is raised. He reigns. We will die, but we will be raised. We will live within a forever glory that will undo all the brokenness and sin of this world.

KEY WORDS

1. **Brothers [and Sisters]** (*adelphoi*) – a person viewed as a brother in terms of a close affinity; brother, fellow member, member, associate. The Greek word can refer to both men and women, so Paul and others use it to refer to the family of the church. See also 1 Cor. 3:1; 15:1.

2. **Steadfast and Immovable** (*hedraios, ametakinētos*) – pertaining to being firmly or solidly in place; steady, even-keeled, mature, low heart rate, for every ounce of passion you have two ounces of self-control. See also, Col. 1:23.
3. **Abounding** (*perisseuō*) – to be outstanding, be prominent, or to excel in something. Here referring not to money, promotion, or reputation, but rather the mountain peak values of 1 Corinthians: Christ crucified, love, and the resurrection. See also, 2 Cor. 8:7; Col. 2:7; 1 Thess. 4:10.
4. **Vain** (*kenos*) – pertaining to being without purpose or result. It is at the top and tail of this passage pointing to both belief and behavior – neither are done in vain because Christ has risen. See also, 1 Cor. 15:10, 1 Thess. 2:1.

KNOWING AND BEING KNOWN

- What have you been lamenting in this season? Has it been a lonely lament? What are ways that you can allow joy and hope to be a part of your lament?
- Take stock of your love bank account. Is it at or near empty? What are ways that you can worship Jesus and remind yourself of the gospel in the coming days?
- Consider how you are currently 'abounding in the work of the Lord.' Do you think about your work and do your work in such a way that the gospel must be true? Do you pour into others and care as much about their success as your own? Do you consistently care about redemptive results? Do you sacrifice? Do you have clear lines that you will not cross to keep your integrity? Do you look for ways to verbally share the gospel?

RESPONDING IN PRAYER

- Pray for one another – that we would know that the resurrection is true and so be steadfast and immovable in it, abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that our labor in the Lord is not in vain.
- Pray for those among your family, friends, and community who have not put their trust in Jesus – that they would respond to the gospel and trust Christ to save them.