

**“The Gospel Truth”
1 Corinthians 15:1-11**

**¹Now I make known to you, brothers, the gospel which I proclaimed as good news to you, which also you received, in which also you stand, ²by which also you are saved, if you hold fast the word which I proclaimed to you as good news, unless you believed for nothing. ³For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,
1 Corinthians 15:1-11**

⁴and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, ⁵and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶After that He appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom remain until now, but some have fallen asleep. ⁷After that, He appeared to James, then to all the apostles, ⁸and last of all, as to one untimely born, He appeared to me also.

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

⁹For I am the least of the apostles, and not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me did not prove vain; but I labored even more than all of them, yet not I, but the grace of God with me. ¹¹Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Introduction

A. “The Part That Matters,” No Wonder They Call Him the Savior, Max Lucado, 11-13.

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C. The gospel is the power of God for salvation and the greatest revelation of the manifold wisdom of God.

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D. It is for this reason that the apostle Paul gave the gospel the first place in his preaching, sought to proclaim it clearly with all his might, and even pronounced a curse upon all those who would pervert its truth.

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F. The gospel truth is what really matters.

I. Christ Paid for Our Sins (15:1-3)

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1 Corinthians 15:1-3

I. Christ Paid for Our Sins (15:1-3)

A. The Person of the Gospel

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A. The Person of the Gospel

- 1. "CHRIST died for our sins according to the Scriptures." If you're going to understand Easter, you have to back up three days. Three days prior to the resurrection, Jesus Christ suffered and died.**

I. Christ Paid for Our Sins (15:1-3)

- 2. The cross rests on the timeline of history like a compelling diamond. Its tragedy summons all sufferers. Its absurdity attracts all cynics. Its hope lures all searchers.**

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2. The cross rests on the timeline of history like a compelling diamond. Its tragedy summons all sufferers. Its absurdity attracts all cynics. Its hope lures all searchers.

3. What a piece of wood. History has idolized it and despised it, gold-plated it and burned it, worn it and trashed it.

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4. History has done everything to it but ignore it. That's the one option the cross does not offer. You cannot ignore a piece of lumber that suspends the greatest claim in history.

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4. History has done everything to it but ignore it. That's the one option the cross does not offer. You cannot ignore a piece of lumber that suspends the greatest claim in history.

5. The bottom line is sobering. If the account is true, it's history's hinge. If not, it's history's hoax.

I. Christ Paid for Our Sins (15:1-3)

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7. In the Bible we read that Christ was divine. That is, Jesus Christ was God in human flesh, the God-man. Jesus spelled out God in a language that we can understand.

I. Christ Paid for Our Sins (15:1-3)

8. The Bible also teaches us that Christ was human. He understands what we're going through. He understands the pull of temptation, for He was tempted in all points like us, yet without sin. Jesus Christ cares for us.

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8. The Bible also teaches us that Christ was human. He understands what we're going through. He understands the pull of temptation, for He was tempted in all points like us, yet without sin. Jesus Christ cares for us.

9. Jesus Christ was God on the earth. Divine. Human. Eternal. The death slayer.

I. Christ Paid for Our Sins (15:1-3)

B. The Passion of the Gospel

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B. The Passion of the Gospel

1. “Christ DIED for our sins according to the Scriptures.” Death is a reality. Until Christ returns, we will all eventually die. We cannot put off our date with deity. “And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment” (Hebrews 9:27).

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2. Christ died a violent death. He was slaughtered.

3. He suffered physically. He was scourged, mocked, had His beard pulled from His face, and was nailed to the cross.

4. He suffered spiritually. God the Father laid our sins on Him.

I. Christ Paid for Our Sins (15:1-3)

5. “Surely our griefs He Himself bore, and our sorrows He carried; yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the chastening for our peace fell upon Him, and by His wounds we are healed. All of us like sheep have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; but Yahweh has caused the iniquity of us all to fall on Him” (Isaiah 53:4-6).

I. Christ Paid for Our Sins (15:1-3)

6. “Who Himself bore our sins in His body on the tree, so that having died to sin, we might live to righteousness; by His wounds you were healed” (1 Peter 2:24).

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6. “Who Himself bore our sins in His body on the tree, so that having died to sin, we might live to righteousness; by His wounds you were healed” (1 Peter 2:24).

7. “He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him (2 Corinthians 5:21).

I. Christ Paid for Our Sins (15:1-3)

8. Jesus Christ died on the cross for our sins.

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C. The Purpose of the Gospel

- 1. “Christ died FOR OUR SINS according to the Scriptures.”**
- 2. “As it is written, there is none righteous, not even one” (Romans 3:10).**

I. Christ Paid for Our Sins (15:1-3)

- 3. “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23).**

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3. “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23).

4. We like to justify our sins or rationalize them away. But we cannot. “Now we know that whatever the Law says, it speaks to those who are in the Law, so that EVERY mouth may be shut and all the world may become accountable to God” (Romans 3:19).

I. Christ Paid for Our Sins (15:1-3)

5. No one is so good that he need not be saved and no one is so bad that he cannot be saved.

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6. When Jesus Christ cried out “It is finished” (John 19:30) and “Into your hand I commit My spirit” (Luke 23:46), heaven shouted, hell sighed, and our sins were paid in full!

I. Christ Paid for Our Sins (15:1-3)

7. That day the kingdom of death was repossessed and hope took up the payments!

II. Christ Put Away Our Sins (15:4a)

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1 Corinthians 15:4

II. Christ Put Away Our Sins (15:4a)

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II. Christ Put Away Our Sins (15:4a)

A. “And that He was buried.”

B. Christ was pronounced dead. Then Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus buried His body in a borrowed tomb.

C. Have you ever wondered why the burial is part of the good news? Why is the burial so important?

II. Christ Put Away Our Sins (15:4a)

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E. The devil, “the accuser of our brothers” (Revelation 12:10), likes to dig up old sins. He likes to nag, nag, nag.

F. But when Jesus was buried, our sins were put away.

II. Christ Put Away Our Sins (15:4a)

**G. “Living, He loved me; dying, He saved me;
Buried, He carried my sins far away; Rising,
He justified freely forever; One day He’s
coming—O glorious day!” (J. Wilbur
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**H. “For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin
I will remember no more” (Jeremiah 31:34b).**

II. Christ Put Away Our Sins (15:4a)

**I. “He will again have compassion on us; He will subdue our iniquities. And You will cast all their sins into the depths of the sea”
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J. “God has buried our sins in the depths of the sea and has posted a no fishing sign over them” (Bertha Smith).

III. Christ Prevailed Over Our Sins (15:4b)

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**⁴and that He was buried, and that He was
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III. Christ Prevailed Over Our Sins (15:4b)

A. “And that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures.”

III. Christ Prevailed Over Our Sins (15:4b)

A. “And that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures.”

B. There is no period after “He was buried” in the verse.

III. Christ Prevailed Over Our Sins (15:4b)

C. If Christ has not been raised, we have no hope. Our preaching is vain. Your faith is worthless. We are still in our sins. We are of all people most to be pitied.

(1 Corinthians 15:14, 17, 18, 19)

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(1 Corinthians 15:14, 17, 18, 19)

D. "BUT NOW CHRIST HAS BEEN RAISED FROM THE DEAD" (1 Corinthians 15:20).

III. Christ Prevailed Over Our Sins (15:4b)

E. The resurrection is the Father's amen to the Son's "it is finished!" Christ prevailed over our sins! The price Jesus paid at Calvary atoned for our sins. The resurrection is the divine declaration that the Father has accepted His Son's death as a sacrifice for sin.

III. Christ Prevailed Over Our Sins (15:4b)

F. "Up from the grave He arose, with a mighty triumph o'er His foes; He arose a victor from the dark domain; He lives forever with His saints to reign. He arose, He arose; hallelujah, Christ arose" (Robert Lowry, "Christ Arose").

Conclusion

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B. The Snakebite Club

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C. The Gospel Definition

The gospel is the good news that the just and gracious God of the universe looked upon hopelessly sinful people and sent His only Son, Jesus Christ, God in human flesh, to bear His wrath against sin on the cross and to show His power over sin in the resurrection so that everyone who turns from their sin (repentance) and believes in Him (faith) will be reconciled to God forever.