

“If Christ Has Not Been Raised...”

(1 Corinthians 15:1-19)

The resurrection of Jesus is the key issue of our faith (1 Corinthians 15:3). All of Christianity stands or falls on it being a lie or historical fact.

Over the past couple of weeks, Matt has brought us lessons verifying it to be true. But what if we didn't have all the evidence that Matt presented? What if Jesus was not raised from the dead? How different would our lives be?

The Apostle Paul actually contemplates this idea in 1 Corinthians 15:12-19. Let's consider the consequences for us if the Lord had not been raised from the dead.

I. If Christ has not been raised...

- A. Preaching the gospel is vain (1 Corinthians 15:14).
- B. Our faith is vain (1 Corinthians 15:14, 17, 29-32).
- C. The apostles are false witnesses (1 Corinthians 15:15).
- D. We are still in our sin (1 Corinthians 15:17).
- E. Those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished (1 Corinthians 15:18).
- F. We are of all men most to be pitied (1 Corinthians 15:19).

II. Since Christ has been raised...

- A. Preaching the gospel is validated (Mark 16:15-16).
- B. Our faith is validated (Romans 1:4).
- C. The apostles are true witnesses (1 John 1:1-4).
- D. We can receive forgiveness (Ephesians 1:7; Romans 5:9-10).
- E. Those who have fallen asleep in Christ have not perished (Revelation 14:13).
- F. We are the richest people on the face of the planet (1 John 5:11).

II. How should we respond?

- A. We need to be thankful !
- B. We need to be faithful (1 Corinthians 15:58)!

Conclusion: Do you need to come to the Lord this morning?

- Shawn Jeffries