

**1 CORINTHIANS, Chapter 15 – The Risen Christ, Faith's Reality; The Risen Christ, Our Hope; The Last Enemy Destroyed; Effects of Denying the Resurrection; A Glorious Body; Our Final Victory**

**OBSERVATION**

**INTERPRETATION**

**APPLICATION**

Monday 7:00pm, H 105 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by the vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – **Phil Twente, cell #714 425 9221**; email – [ptwente@gmail.com](mailto:ptwente@gmail.com) For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: [www.ptwente.com](http://www.ptwente.com) Click on "Latest Studies" on the right side. References include commentaries by numerous pastor/teachers.

**1 Corinthians 15** - The great "resurrection" chapter is the climax of this letter. In the first eleven chapters the Apostle Paul has been dealing with what we have called "**the carnalities**," the **hurtful, false and divisive things** that were occurring there in the church at Corinth, which are also present in our churches, therefore, the letter is pertinent to us. Beginning with Chapter 12, Paul introduced what he called "**the spiritualities**," the things concerning the spirit, what the Spirit of God has come to do in your life and in mine. The Apostle pointed out that first was an indwelling of the Spirit, whose object is to exalt and magnify the person of Jesus our Lord. Then there were the "gifts of the Spirit," which are imparted to everyone among us so that we have a ministry of our own by which we may see God's power manifest through us individually. Then that merged, in Chapter 13, with the "**fruit of the Spirit**," how the exercise of gifts to one another help us produce in our lives that amazing fruit of the Spirit, which is love. Finally we come to **the ultimate truth about the Spirit, the resurrection of the body after death.**

**1 CORINTHIANS, Chapter 15 – The Risen Christ, Faith's Reality;**

**1Co 15:1** *Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel (good news of Jesus Christ) which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand.*

**1Co 15:2** *by which also you are (present passive – being saved, trusting in Christ) saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.*

**1Co 15:3** *For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,*

**1Co 15:4** *and that He was buried (entombed), and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures,*

**1Co 15:5** *and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve.*

**1Co 15:6** *After that He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep.*

**1Co 15:7** *After that He was seen by James, then by all the apostles.*

**1Co 15:8** *Then last of all He was seen by me also, as by one born out of due time (shortened gestation period).*

**1Co 15:9** *For I am the least of the apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.*

**1Co 15:10** *But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.*

**1** – I preached it! You received it! And you are standing in it! The gospel means good news. I preached to you the good news.

**2** – The Corinthian church was the **first witness** to Christ's resurrection! They were doing well, standing in the gospel, but they had to continue to hold fast the gospel by which they were saved. If one lets go of the gospel, all their previous belief won't do them any good. It was as if they had believed in vain.

**3** – **Witness #2/3** is the Holy Spirit writing through the Scriptures prophesying Jesus' coming, death, burial and resurrection! Three elements of the gospel *I delivered to you first of all that which I also received*. **First:** The good news is **Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures**. His death accomplished something for us. It changed us, it delivered us, it set us free! That death had great significance in the mind and heart and eyes of God, and that is the good news. *Gal. 1:11-12* *But I make known to you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. [12] For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ.*

**4** – **Secondly**, Jesus not only "*died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures*" -- predicted, anticipated and fulfilled in the cross -- **but that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures**. Christ died for our sins accordance with the scriptures. He was also "buried." Why is the burial of Jesus included? When his disciples came and took the body of Jesus down from the cross, it marked their acceptance of the fact of his death.

**Thirdly**, **"that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures."** Once again He fulfilled the predictions in the Old Testament. On the third day, to the amazement of the disciples, **He fulfilled all predictions**. That is the story of the gospel -- three basic facts. These are not doctrines; these are not philosophies; these are not ideas that men have had about what God should be like. These are simple, hard-nosed facts. These facts have changed the history of the world.

**5** – **Next numerous live witnesses are introduced!** On the morning of the resurrection, Jesus manifested Himself to **Peter**.

**Vs 6-7** – The appearances of Jesus after His resurrection, was seen of the **twelve and then by more than five hundred, then by James**.

**8** Paul says that he wasn't really born into the kingdom with the others. He wasn't an immediate disciple of Christ. But **Jesus appeared to him** there on the road to Damascus. Paul saw the risen Christ. So **Paul bears witness of having seen the risen Christ**.

**Vs. 9-10** I love that! I'm *not worthy*. I'm not deserving to be what I am, but by the grace of God I am what I am. Were it not for the grace of God, who knows what I would be, **but by the grace of God I am what I am.**

**1** – Apparently Greek culture as well as those believing in hedonism (the ethical theory that pleasure and its desire is the highest good and proper aim of human life). taught that there was no afterlife in a bodily form and that there was no resurrection of any bodies. Some in the church must have been listening for Paul to go about proving the actual resurrection of Jesus Christ occurred. **How prone are we to listen to the culture of the day, even when it is in opposition to the Bible?**

**2** – We're told here that we are being saved by the Gospel, if we hold fast that Biblical word which is taught, unless we believe in vain. **Are you holding fast to the Biblical truths concerning the Gospel?**

**3** – Paul is affirming that the good news of the gospel which he preached was not from man but from God. also that Christ died for our sins according to the prophetic word in the Scriptures. **Are we always being sure to include the reason that Christ died? That being He died for our sins!**

**4** – Also, that **Christ was entombed (buried) and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures!** This is the definition of the all critical Gospel, on which all of Christianity hinges.

**Vs. 5-7** Under Jewish law, truth could be established by the agreeing testimony of two witnesses. Here Paul brings many witness, including Peter, the twelve apostles, over 500 brethren, James and Paul himself, all who saw the risen Jesus! **Do you agree with the truth in the verses?**

**Vs. 8-10** – Last of all, Paul includes himself, adding that he was the least because of his persecuting the church. Paul **gave the grace of God all the credit for the change** in His life. He was a changed man, forgiven, cleansed, full of love when once he was full of hate. He knew this was not his own accomplishment, but it was the work of the grace of God in him. As he well notes, and we would agree for ourselves, that **But by the grace of God I am what I am!** **How thankful are we for the gift of grace?**

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*1Co 15:11 Therefore, whether it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.*

**The Risen Christ, Our Hope; 1Co 15:12** *Now if Christ is preached that He has been raised from the dead, how do some among you say that there is no resurrection of the dead?*

*1Co 15:13 But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ is not risen.*

*1Co 15:14 And if Christ is not risen, then our preaching is empty and your faith is also empty.*

*1Co 15:15 Yes, and we are found false witnesses of God, because we have testified of God that He raised up Christ, whom He did not raise up—if in fact the dead do not rise.*

*1Co 15:16 For if the dead do not rise, then Christ is not risen.*

*1Co 15:17 And if Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins!*

*1Co 15:18 Then also those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished.*

*1Co 15:19 If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable.*

**The Last Enemy Destroyed;**

*1Co 15:20 But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.*

*1Co 15:21 For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead.*

*1Co 15:22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive.*

*1Co 15:23 But each one in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, afterward those who are Christ's at His coming.*

**11—** Whether it was I or others were preaching about the resurrection, so you believed. The gospel, which I preached, which you received, and by which you stand. So I preached it. You've believed it.

**12—** This was a false teaching that had crept into the church of Corinth. Where it came from, we don't know. There were some of the early Gnostics, Marcion, and others who denied the resurrection from the dead. It was a teaching that had crept into the early church.

**Vs. 13-16** The powerful argument that Paul begins to give now against this teaching that there is no resurrection. If there is no resurrection, then Jesus isn't risen. That means that our preaching is vain, that your faith is vain and that we actually are false witnesses of God. For if the dead do not rise, then Christ is not risen!

**17—** There is no forgiveness. There is no redemption.

**18—** A further problem for *those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished*. There is no hope for the future! There is no hope of the resurrection.

**19—** If our hopes are just only in this life, then that would be a very pitiful state to be in.

**20—** Note the contrast between the natural man, which is after Adam and the spiritual man which is after Jesus. The **natural man, after Adam, came first**. The **spiritual man, after Jesus, came later**. Adam by his sin brought death upon humanity. By **one man's sin, all were made sinners, so that by one man's righteousness, all have been made righteous**. All of us inherited the sinful nature of Adam. We were born with a sinful nature. We received that from Adam. So in Adam all die because all sin. Jesus has become the first fruits of those who rise from the dead.

**21—** Adam is one "head" of the human race, and all mankind was brought under death by Adam. The second Adam, Jesus Christ, is the other head of the human race, and Jesus brings resurrection to all that are "under" His headship.

**22—** Does this mean everyone is resurrected? Yes and no. All will be resurrected in the sense that they will receive a resurrection body, and live forever. Jesus plainly spoke of both the resurrection of life and the resurrection of condemnation (*John 5:29*). All are resurrected, but not all will receive the resurrection of life. Some will receive the resurrection of condemnation, and live forever in a resurrected body in hell.

**23—** The glorious hope that we have of the resurrection, Christ the firstfruits. Then they who are Christ's at His coming.

**11—** Whether Paul or one of the other apostles brought the message, the result was the same. **Does our witness always include the resurrection?**

**12—** Some, not thinking correctly, were denying the reality of the resurrection, while believing in a resurrected Jesus. Jesus' resurrection not only proves His own resurrection, but it proves the principle of resurrection, thereby completely destroying their wrongful belief of no resurrection.

**Vs. 13-19** Some of the consequences of no resurrection of Jesus are being given in these next seven verses.

If these few Corinthians were right about the resurrection, then Jesus was still dead! Is your Jesus dead or alive?

**14—** Another consequence: our preaching is empty and your faith is empty as well.

**15—** Another is that our witness of a risen Savior is false, if He is not risen.

**16—** If there is no resurrection, then Christ has not risen and is dead!

**17—** And if no resurrection, our faith is futile. We have not been forgiven of our sins. We are still in them!

**18—** Also then all believers who have died, have perished!

**19—** Then, if all we have in this life if hope in Christ. If he is still dead, we are of all people the most pitiable.

**20—** Paul has demonstrated beyond all doubt that Jesus rose from the dead. He has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. His resurrection represents our resurrection, because we will be raised with a body like His. Also He is our "entrance fee" to resurrection. Jesus paid our admission to the resurrection! *First Fruit* – Ark rested on Aarat *Gen. 8:4*; seventh month changed to first month, Abib (Nissan) *Ex. 12:2; 13:4*; **Jesus' resurrection! 50 days later, Pentecost – Holy Spirit poured out!**

**Vs. 21-23 Rom 5:17** *For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ!* The resurrection spoken of here is a process that began with the Resurrection of Christ and will conclude when those who are martyred during the Tribulation for their faith in Christ are resurrected, (*Rev. 20:4-6*). We are told in *Rev. 20* about a **second resurrection** that takes place at the end of the Millennium when all of the unbelievers will stand before the Great White Throne. The **first resurrection is the resurrection unto life** because it is made up only of those who are saved. The **second resurrection is the resurrection unto death** because it is made up only of unbelievers. (*John 5:29*). **What evidence does every single person have that he is connected to Adam?**

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*1Co 15:24 Then comes the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power.*

*1Co 15:25 For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet. Rapture of the church; our resurrection!; Great Tribulation; Christ 2<sup>nd</sup> coming; 1000 year Millennial reign; Great White Throne Judgment (2<sup>nd</sup> death); Then no more rebellion by man and no more death!*

*1Co 15:26 The last enemy that will be destroyed is death.*

*1Co 15:27 For "HE HAS PUT ALL THINGS UNDER HIS FEET." But when He says "all things are put under Him," it is evident that He who put all things under Him is excepted. 1Co 15:28 Now when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him, that God may be all in all.*

**Effects of Denying the Resurrection;**

*1Co 15:29 Otherwise, what will they do who are baptized for the dead, if the dead do not rise at all? Why then are they baptized for the dead?*

*1Co 15:30 And why do we stand in jeopardy every hour?*

*1Co 15:31 I affirm, by the boasting in you which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily.*

*1Co 15:32 If, in the manner of men, I have fought with beasts at Ephesus, what advantage is it to me? If the dead do not rise, "LET US EAT AND DRINK, FOR TOMORROW WE DIE!" (This is Hedonism!)*

**Vs. 24-26** The resurrection of Jesus leads to the resolution of all things. *Then comes the end, when He delivers the kingdom....* Paul looks forward to the time when all things are resolved in Jesus Christ and He presents it all to God the Father, giving glory to the God who authored this eternal plan of the ages. *When He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power:* For now, God has granted a measure of rule and authority and power to men, to Satan, and even to death. But all that is temporary. Jesus will take His rightful place as the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings and Lord of lords (*1Tim. 6:15*). After the resurrection, God will finally resolve all of history according to His will. *He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet:* Paul here refers to the 1,000 year reign of Jesus described in *Rev. 20:1-6*. After that time, there will be a final, Satan inspired rebellion (*Rev. 20:7-10*), which Jesus will crush and finally and forever put all enemies under His feet. *The last enemy that will be destroyed is death:* Death will be present during the millennial reign of Jesus (*Rev. 20:9; Isa. 65:20*). But afterward, death will be abolished. It is truly the last enemy that will be destroyed. Each one in their order, Christ, the firstfruits of those that are raised from the dead. And He must reign until He has put all enemies under His feet or in subjection to Jesus Christ. **27—** That is, God put all things under Him. So it is accepted that God the Father wasn't put under Him

**28—** Referring to God the Son's desire to glorify God the Father through all eternity. Importantly, each person of the Trinity desires to glorify another person of the Trinity. The Son glorifies the Father (*John 17:4*), the Father glorifies the Son (*John 17:5*), and the Holy Spirit glorifies the Son (*John 16:14*). This aspect of the nature of God is something God wants us to walk in, having a concern for the glory of others, and not our own (*Php. 2:3-4*).

**29—** It is a mysterious passage, and there have been more than thirty different attempts to interpret it. Some sects taught that the dead could be saved by being baptized now for them!

**30—** *Why do we stand in jeopardy every hour?* If there were no resurrection, why would Paul place his life in jeopardy for the gospel? The way Paul lived his life all-out for the gospel was evidence of the truth of the resurrection.

**31—** Paul says he is facing physical death every day, not referring to dying daily to the flesh and being alive in the Spirit.

**32—** Whether or not Paul actually was fighting with the beasts or whether he was referring to the beastly men in Ephesus, we don't know. But what advantage is it to me, *If the dead do not rise, "LET US EAT AND DRINK, FOR TOMORROW WE DIE!"* Why not just live it up? Let's party, if there is no resurrection then there is no incentive for righteous living. There is no incentive for sacrificial living. There is no incentive for giving ourselves fully for God, if there is no resurrection.

**Vs. 24-26** When at last the kingdom of death is cast into outer darkness, Christ will rule and reign unchallenged. What a day that will be! The last enemy, death, to be destroyed, nevermore to haunt or burden anyone, will not only be physical death, but the death of marriage, the death of joy, the death of peace, the death of everything that brings about hopelessness, heaviness, and sorrow. **Do you know why death exists?**

**27—** The Son will not someday be superior to the Father. The relationship of Father to Son is eternal. The Son Himself will also be subject to Him.

**28—** God the Father will always be God the Father, and God the Son will always be God the Son, and for all eternity they will continue to relate to each other as Father and Son. *That God may be all in all:* referring to God the Son's desire to glorify God the Father through all eternity.

**29—** Baptism is a symbol of death, burial, and resurrection. "If Jesus is not risen," he asks, "why would you be baptized?" **Are you aware that there is no scriptural basis for anything relating to baptism for the dead?**

**30—** Why would Paul place his life in jeopardy for the gospel, if there were no resurrection? The way Paul lived his life all-out for the gospel was evidence of the truth of the resurrection.

**31—** Paul is boasting is both in the Corinthian Christians and in Christ Jesus. He boasts about dying daily. His life was lived so on the edge for Jesus Christ that he could say I die daily. There were always people out to kill him. He is writing of the constant imminent danger to his physical life.

**32—** Paul may be using the term beasts figuratively, in reference to his violent and wild human opponents as he faced at Ephesus. (*Acts 19:21-41*). He faced all of this for the sake of the resurrection of the dead, both Jesus' resurrection and the believer's. Paul's **third proof for the resurrection** in this section is also compelling. **If there is no resurrection, then there is no future judgment to consider.** Then life is lived only "under the sun," as is considered in Ecclesiastes.



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**1Co 15:33** *Do not be deceived: "Evil company corrupts good habits."*

**1Co 15:34** *Awake to righteousness, and do not sin; for some do not have the knowledge of God. I speak this to your shame.*

**A Glorious Body:**

**1Co 15:35** *But someone will say, "How are the dead raised up? And with what body do they come?"*

**1Co 15:36** *Foolish one, what you sow is not made alive unless it dies.*

**1Co 15:37** *And what you sow, you do not sow that body that shall be, but mere grain—perhaps wheat or some other grain.*  
**1Co 15:38** *But God gives it a body as He pleases, and to each seed its own body.*

**1Co 15:39** *All flesh is not the same flesh, but there is one kind of flesh of men, another flesh of animals, another of fish, and another of birds.*

**1Co 15:40** *There are also celestial bodies and terrestrial bodies; but the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another.*

**1Co 15:41** *There is one glory of the sun, another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for one star differs from another star in glory.*

**1Co 15:42** *So also is the resurrection of the dead. The body is sown in corruption (dishonor), it is raised in incorruption (glory).*

**1Co 15:43** *It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power.*

**1Co 15:44** *It is sown (or we sow) a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.*

**33** – These wrongful and evil communications, that is there is no resurrection, corrupt good manners. They lead to immoral living.

**34** – Paul is dealing with this false teaching in Corinth that there is no resurrection.

**35** – The nature of the resurrected body. *Someone will say:* Paul presents an honest question, or a foolish question, depending on how it is asked. *How are the dead raised up?* Paul doesn’t really answer, because the answer is obvious. God raises the dead. *And with what body do they come?* This may be a foolish question. (v.36);

**36** – He goes to nature. He goes to the planting of a seed into the ground. It doesn’t come forth unto new life until it first of all dies. The process is called germination. A seed germinates or dies. Then out of that seed, there comes the new body, the new life.

**Vs. 37-38** – When you plant a wheat seed, a big wheat seed does not come up. Instead, a stalk of wheat comes up. So, even though our resurrection bodies come from our present bodies, we should not expect that they will be the same bodies or just “improved” bodies.

**39** – The DNA molecules that make up flesh. The flesh of man is different from the DNA of animals. The animals are different from the fowl. The fowl are different from the fish. There are various types of bodies.

**40** – The glory of the heavenly body differs from the glory of the earthly body.

**41** – There are greater stars, different colors. You put them on the spectroscope, each star seems to have its own distinct color. They differ from each other.

**42** – Going back to the planting, Paul gives four contrasts between our present body and our future resurrection body: **corruptible against incorruptible, dishonor against glory, weakness against power, and natural against spiritual.** On all counts, the resurrection body wins!

**Vs. 33-34** – The Corinthian **believers were being deceived by those who questioned the Resurrection.** They were listening to those who had much to say but no knowledge of God. Wrong information, they will result in wrong actions. He admonishes them to stop sinning—because there will be a resurrection. **Who are you listening to and “keeping company” with?**

**35** – An example of an insincere question? Paul answers, *“Foolish one”!* **Don’t get caught up in argumentative and insincere questions. How is one resurrected by the dead? God does it! That eliminates all doubt! Consider Mt. of Transfiguration; Jesus’ resurrected body!**

**36** – What you sow is not alive, unless it dies!

**Vs.37-38** – What body are we going to be given? What’s it going to be like? **It will be the body that God wants!**



**Vs. 39-41** – Everything you see He created, so how hard is for Him to create a resurrected body?

**Vs. 42-44** We are given four characteristics/contrasts between our present and resurrected bodies:

**1 corruptible against incorruptible,**

**2 dishonor against glory,**

**3 weakness against power,**

**4 natural against spiritual**

**Can you see the resurrected body is infinitely superior on all counts?**

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**1Co 15:45** *And so it is written, "THE FIRST MAN ADAM BECAME A LIVING BEING." The last Adam became a life-giving spirit.*

**1Co 15:46** *However, the spiritual is not first, but the natural, and afterward the spiritual.*

**1Co 15:47** *The first man (coming back to this first and second) was of the earth, made of dust; the second Man is the Lord from heaven.*

**1Co 15:48** *As was the man of dust, so also are those who are made of dust; and as is the heavenly Man, so also are those who are heavenly.*

**1Co 15:49** *And as we have borne the image of the man of dust (Adam), we shall also bear the image of the heavenly Man (Jesus!).*

**Our Final Victory**

**1Co 15:50** *Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption.*

**1Co 15:51** *Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep (die as Christians), but we shall all be changed (at the Rapture of the church)—*

**1Co 15:52** *in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.*

**1Co 15:53** *For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.*

**45 –** God formed Adam out of the dust of the earth. The body wasn’t Adam. God breathed into Adam. He became a living soul. So the first Adam was made a living soul. *The last Adam became a life-giving spirit. So the soul of man comes from Adam. But the spirit comes from Jesus Christ!* Jesus said, you’ve got to be born again! That which is born of flesh is flesh. That which is born of the spirit is spirit. Don’t marvel when I say, if you want to enter the kingdom of heaven, you’ve got to be born again. **The last Adam, Jesus, was made a quickening spirit.**

**vs. 46-49 –** We’ve received our bodies from Adam. They are of the earth, earthy, made out of the earth, made for the earth. Our earthly body is designed for the environment conditions of the earth. The first man of the earth is earthy. **Jesus’ resurrected body was vastly different and superior to the body** that He was in while here on the earth. A body **that was designed for a different dimension.** So also shall our resurrected bodies be vastly superior and different. *(1 John 3:2) Beloved now we are the sons of God. It doesn’t yet appear what we are going to be but we know that when He shall appear, Jesus our Lord, we will be like Him for we shall see Him as He is!*

**50 –** Flesh and blood, in this context, means “our present bodies.” Jesus’ resurrection body was a “pure spirit” body, but a material body described as flesh and bones (Luk 24:39) instead of flesh and blood. This may seem like a small distinction to us, but it must be an important distinction to God. *corruption* does not mean moral or ethical corruption, but physical, material corruption. These bodies which are subject to sickness, disease, injury, and one-day decay, are unsuited to heaven. *Corruption cannot inherit incorruption.*

**51 –** A mystery is simply a thing to be understood by spiritual, rather than by merely human perception. Paul will tell the Corinthians something they could not have known by reason or research. They could not have known this unless God revealed it to them. *...not all sleep, but we shall all be changed:* Since sleep is a softer way of describing the death of a believer, Paul is telling us that not all Christians will die, but there will be a “final generation” who will be transformed into resurrection bodies at the return of Jesus before they ever face death.

**52 –** In a single moment, Jesus will gather His people (both dead and on the earth) to Himself, for resurrection.

**53 –** Resurrection is a *must* for the Christian’s destiny. In light of all this, how could the Corinthian Christians let go of such an important truth?

**45 – "THE FIRST MAN ADAM BECAME A LIVING BEING." Gen 2:7** *And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.*

*The last Adam became Rom 5:14* *Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who had not sinned according to the likeness of the transgression of Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come.*

*a life-giving spirit. - Joh 5:21* *For as the Father raises the dead and gives life to them, even so the Son gives life to whom He will. Joh 6:57* *As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so he who feeds on Me will live because of Me.*

**Vs. 46-49 –** We are given one more glimpse of what the new body, that body which pleases God! Our present natural body has a connection with the first man, Adam. Our resurrected spiritual body will be infinitely superior and is connected with the second Man, Jesus Christ! We’re going to be like Jesus’ body!! **It’s impossible to imagine how much better it will be!**

**50 –** It’s impossible for our present flesh and blood bodies to inherit the kingdom of God. **Our present bodies are not made for heaven. They will all die! In the present form they cannot inherit incorruption!**

**51 –** We are told something here than can only be understood by spiritual and not by human perception. That not all Christians will die, but there will be a “final generation” **who will be transformed into resurrection bodies at the return of Jesus before they ever face death.**

**Vs. 52-53 –** Wow! In the twinkling of an eye – about 1/1000 of a second, at the last trumpet, the dead believers will be raised incorruptible. **We shall be changed, for this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.**

**1 CORINTHIANS, Chapter 15 – The Risen Christ, Faith's Reality; The Risen Christ, Our Hope; The Last Enemy Destroyed; Effects of Denying the Resurrection; A Glorious Body; Our Final Victory**

**OBSERVATION**

**INTERPRETATION**

**APPLICATION**

Monday 7:00pm, H 105 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by the vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – Phil Twente, cell #714 425 9221; email – [ptwente@gmail.com](mailto:ptwente@gmail.com) For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: [www.ptwente.com](http://www.ptwente.com) Click on "Latest Studies" on the right side. References include commentaries by numerous pastor/teachers.

*1Co 15:54 So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "DEATH IS SWALLOWED UP IN VICTORY."*

*1Co 15:55 "O DEATH, WHERE IS YOUR STING? O HADES, WHERE IS YOUR VICTORY?"*

*1Co 15:56 The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. 1Co 15:57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

*1Co 15:58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.*

**HE'S ALIVE! - The Gaither Vocal Band**

The gates and doors were barred and all the windows fastened down, I spent the night in sleeplessness and rose at every sound, Half in hopeless sorrow half in fear the day, Would find the soldiers crashing through to drag us all away, Then just before the sunrise I heard something at the wall, The gate began to rattle and a voice began to call, I hurried to the window and looked down into the street, Expecting swords and torches and the sound of soldiers feet,

There was no one there but Mary so I went down to let her in, John stood there beside me as she told us were she'd been, She said they moved Him in the night and none of us knows where, The stones been rolled away and now His body isn't there. We both ran toward the garden then John ran on ahead, We found the stone and the empty tomb just the way that Mary said, But the winding sheet they wrapped Him in was just an empty shell, And how or where they'd taken Him was more than I could tell.

Something strange had happened there but what I did not know, John believed a miracle but I just turned to go, Circumstance and speculation couldn't lift me very high, Cause I'd seen them crucify him and then I'd watched him die, Back inside the house again all the guilt and anguish came, Everything I'd promised Him just added to my shame, But at last it came to choices I denied I knew His name, Even If He was alive it wouldn't be the same.

But suddenly the air was filled with a strange and sweet perfume, Light that came from everywhere drove shadows from the room, Jesus stood before me with his arms held open wide, And I fell down on my knees and clung to Him and cried, He raised me to my feet and as I looked into His eyes, Love was shining out from Him like sunlight from the sky, Guilt and my confusion disappeared in sweet release, And every fear I'd ever had just melted into peace. **He's alive, He's alive, He's alive and I'm forgiven, Heavens gates are open wide. He's alive, He's alive, He's alive and I'm forgiven, Heavens gates are open wide. He's alive, He's alive, He's alive and I'm forgiven, Heavens gates are open wide. He's alive!**

**54** – Oh how glorious! Death, the final foe! Jesus came to bring victory over death. A resurrected body is not a resuscitated corpse. It is a new order of life that will never die again. Death is defeated by resurrection!

**55** – Paul, knowing death is a defeated enemy because of Jesus' work, can almost taunt death, and mock it. Death has no power over the person in Jesus Christ!

**56** – Sin is what makes death. That's what causes death. Death in trespasses and sin, that's the sting of death. Paul wonderfully links together the ideas of sin, death, and our identification with Jesus' death and resurrection in *Rom\_6:1-14*.

**57** – Victory over death through Him! Victory over sin, the sting of death is sin. He has given us victory over sin. This defeat of death is only possible for those who live through our Lord Jesus Christ. For others, there is resurrection and eternal life, but unto damnation. If you are an unbeliever, death is not a friend, it is an enemy.

**58** – *be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord:* Because we know death is defeated and we have an eternal, resurrected destiny with Jesus Christ, we should stand firm and unshakable all the more for Him right now, working hard, because right now counts forever! *your labor is not in vain in the Lord:* Even if your labor is vain to everyone else, your labor is not in vain in the Lord. It doesn't matter if you get the praise or the encouragement. But resurrection means that your labor is not in vain in the Lord. We don't need to waver, we don't need to change direction, we don't need to fall, and we don't need to quit. For God is not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His name, in that you have ministered to the saints, and do minister. (*Heb\_6:10*) He will show His remembrance of our work and labor of love at the resurrection!

**54** – Yes! How glorious! Jesus came to bring victory over death, the final foe. A resurrected body, not a resuscitated corpse, is a new order of life that will never die again. **Death is defeated by resurrection!**

**55** – Because death is a defeated enemy because of Jesus' work, we can almost taunt death, and mock it. **Death has no longer has power over the person in Jesus Christ!**

**56** – Sin causes death. *Romans 6 1-14* connects the ideas of sin, death and our identification with Jesus' death and resurrection.

**57** – Oh, what victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. **How thankful we should be!**

**58** – Because we know death is defeated and we have an eternal, resurrected destiny with Jesus Christ, we should stand firm and unshakable all the more for Him right now, working hard, because right now counts forever! Even if your labor is vain to everyone else, your labor is not in vain in the Lord. Resurrection means that your labor is not in vain in the Lord. We don't need to waver, we don't need to change direction, we don't need to fall, and we don't need to quit. **For God is not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His name, in that you have ministered to the saints, and do minister. He will show His remembrance of our work and labor of love at the resurrection!**