



Sermon Notes

Title | What If You Are Wrong?
Series | Easter
Text | 1 Corinthians 15:1–28
By | Bob Kerrey
Date | April 17, 2022

1 Corinthians 15:1 Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, **2** and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you— unless you believed in vain. **3** For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, **4** that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, **5** and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. **6** Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. **7** Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. **8** Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. . . . **12** Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? **13** But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. **14** And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. **15** We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. **16** For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. **17** And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. **18** Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. **19** If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied. **20** But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. **21** For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. **22** For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. **23** But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. **24** Then comes the end . . .
ESV

Big Idea:

Text questions during the sermon: 623–850–8809

1 Corinthians 3 For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, **4** that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, **5** and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. *ESV*

For Reflection and Application:

Monday:

Read 1 Corinthians 15:1–2. According to this text, what effect has the gospel had on those in the Corinthian church to whom Paul writes? Are they believers? Why or why not?

Tuesday:

In 1 Corinthians 15:2, why does Paul say, “unless you believed in vain”? Is Paul casting doubt on the eternal salvation of his audience?

Wednesday:

Read 1 Corinthians 15:3–11. According to this text, what are the elements of the gospel that are of first importance? Why are they important?

Thursday:

Read 1 Corinthians 15:12–19. List the logical conclusions Paul draws from the hypothetical idea that the resurrection is false. What does this suggest about the importance of Christ’s bodily resurrection to the Christian faith?

Friday:

Read 1 Corinthians 15:20–28; 1 Thessalonians 4:16–17; and Revelation 20:7–15. According to these passages, if Christ has indeed risen, what is going to happen to believers in the future? What is going to happen to unbelievers? In light of this, why is Easter and the gospel so important? What should you do in response?

Daily Prayer:

Lord, help me to see the resurrection in a new light today. Help me to sort it out carefully, to embrace it faithfully, and to celebrate it wholeheartedly. In Jesus’ name. Amen.