

PAUL'S FIRST EPISTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS

LEARNING HOW TO BE A HEAVENLY CHURCH IN A GODLESS WORLD

1 CORINTHIANS CHAPTER 15:1-11

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER SMX771 MAY 6, 2012

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO YOU WHEN YOU DIE? – PART 2

DISCOVERING THE NATURE OF GOD IN OUR EVERYDAY LIFE

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Death, Eternity, Resurrection, Hell, Heaven, God

Introduction to the Text: 1st Corinthians 15:1-11

The Doctrine of The Resurrection of Jesus Christ

from the dead is the one single most important doctrine of Christianity. So paramount and monumental is it – that if you can disprove the resurrection of Christ – then all is in vain.

1 Corinthians 15:12-15,19

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? **:13** But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ is not risen. **:14** And if Christ is not risen, then our preaching *is* empty and your faith *is* also empty. **:15** Yes, and we are found false witnesses of God,...**:19** If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable.

The Resurrection is “The Centrality” of the Gospel

Someone might argue that it's the life of Christ. Others may say it's the cross of Christ. But without the resurrection – you only have a beautiful life and a selfless death – but on a Sunday morning in Jerusalem, Israel – Jesus Christ, Jesus of Nazareth rose from the dead!

Acts 2:22

“Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know - **:23** Him, being delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death; **:24** whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it.

So Then What is Our Assurance?

Romans 8:11

For if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

And So How Does This Happen?

Romans 10:8-11

But what does it say? *“The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart”* (that is, the word of faith which we preach): **:9** that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. **:10** For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. **:11** For the Scripture says, *“Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame.”*

And This Is To Be Our Aim As Christians

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, **:2** by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. **:3** For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, **:4** and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, **:5** and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve. **: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. **:7** After that He was seen by James, then by all the apostles. **:8** Then last of all He was seen by me also, as by one born out of due time. **: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. **: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*. **:11** Therefore, whether *it was* I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO YOU WHEN YOU DIE?

WHAT MAKES YOU A TRUE BELIEVER!

1.) Arguments from beyond the grave

:1 Moreover, brethren, I **declare** to you **the gospel** which I **preached** to you, which also you **received** and **in which** you **stand**, **:2 by which** also you **are saved**, if you **hold fast** that **word** which I **preached** to you – **unless** you believed in vain.

1.) Will you die with assurance?

2.) Will you die in peace?

3.) Will you die being forgiven?

4.) Will you die being ready?

5.) Will you die hopeful?

6.) Will you die alone?

7.) Will you die condemned?

8.) Will you die too soon?

9.) Will you die without knowledge?

10.) Will you die saved?

WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO YOU WHEN YOU DIE?

WHAT MAKES YOU A TRUE BELIEVER!

2.) Arguments from beyond eternity

:3 For I delivered to you first of all that **which I also received**: (a) that Christ died for our sins (b) **according** to the Scriptures, :4 and (c) that He was buried, and (d) that He rose again the third day (e) **according** to the Scriptures,

What Could Possibly Be So Great That It Is

Beyond Eternity Itself – It's Not A What, But a Whom. It is The LORD God of the Bible Who Is From Eternity Past That Is Reaching Out to Us for Our Good.

**WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO YOU WHEN YOU DIE?
ARGUMENTS FROM BEYOND ETERNITY**

1.) From beyond eternity – His message has come

**The Actual Word of God Given to Man is From Beyond Eternity.
The Bible is the Vehicle That Brings to us the Knowledge of God and His
Nature and Plan and Message.**

From Genesis to Revelation

**The message is the same. The focus is the same. The person is the same.
The issue is the same – The LORD Loves Mankind and has Reached Out to
Rescue him Back to Himself.**

!!! From the Start - In The Very First Book of the Bible !!!

Genesis 3:14-15

So the LORD God said to the serpent: "Because you have done this... :15 And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel."

**WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO YOU WHEN YOU DIE?
ARGUMENTS FROM BEYOND ETERNITY**

2.) From beyond eternity – His righteousness stands

Romans 3:21-22

But now **the righteousness of God** apart from the law **is revealed**, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, :22 **even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ**, to all and on all who believe.

Galatians 3:6-7

just as Abraham "*believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.*" :7 Therefore know that *only* those who are of faith are sons of Abraham.

Romans 4:22-24

And therefore "*it was accounted to him for righteousness.*" :23 Now it was not written for his sake alone that it was imputed to him, :24 but also for us. It shall be imputed to us who believe in Him who raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead,

**WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO YOU WHEN YOU DIE?
ARGUMENTS FROM BEYOND ETERNITY**

3.) From beyond eternity – His love is revealed

1 John 4:7-10

Beloved, let us love one another, **for love is of God**; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. **:8** He who does not love does not know God, **for God is love. :9** In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, **that we might live through Him. :10** In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us

Ephesians 5:2

Walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us,

**WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO YOU WHEN YOU DIE?
ARGUMENTS FROM BEYOND ETERNITY**

4.) From beyond eternity – His light shines forth

It's Awesome to Notice that Before God created the Sun and Moon and Stars, the Bible says that there was Light.

Psalms 14:1

The fool has said in his heart, "*There is no God.*"

Romans 1:21-22

because, although they knew God, they did not glorify *Him* as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. **:22**
Professing to be wise, they became fools,

John 8:12

Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world.

1 John 1:5-7

This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. **:6** If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. **:7** But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

**WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO YOU WHEN YOU DIE?
ARGUMENTS FROM BEYOND ETERNITY**

5.) From beyond eternity – His holiness exists

**From Beyond Eternity Jesus was, is and forever
will be the Son of God.**

Luke 11:1-2

Now it came to pass, as He was praying in a certain place, when He ceased, *that* one of His disciples said to Him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples.” :2 So He said to them, “When you pray, say: Our Father in heaven, **Hallowed** be Your name.

Exodus 3:13-14

Then Moses said to God, “Indeed, *when* I come to the children of Israel and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they say to me, ‘What *is* His name?’ what shall I say to them?” :14 And God said to Moses, “**I AM WHO I AM.**” And He said, “Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, ‘**I AM** has sent me to you.’ ”

The 7 “I AM” Statements of Christ

**WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO YOU WHEN YOU DIE?
ARGUMENTS FROM BEYOND ETERNITY**

6.) From beyond eternity – His justice is proclaimed

Not only is God Just – The Bible is the Book of Justice.

Inside the heart of man is a courtroom, a bench whereby he has set a moral compass or rudder regarding his dealings +/-

Genesis 1:26

Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our **image**, according to Our **likeness**;

Image and likeness = Similarities and Morality
(Adam & Eve pre-fall in the garden with God were complete.)

There are a lot of people today crying about social justice and launching campaigns and selling books on the topic. But if we delete the fact that He is God The Just and is the Justifier, we are nothing but hypocrites – assuming we care about justice while we leave out the One who alone is Just.

“Justice is the virtue which consists in giving to everyone what is his due to him.”

Webster

This is How God Communicates to Us His Perfection,

He is Holy but we are not. He is Just but we are not. He is sinless, we are sinners. BUT the sinner can be re-united with God on the basis, the merits, and the qualification/standards of Jesus Christ.

1 Peter 3:18

For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God,

**Jesus Took My Place –
Justice was Served. Mercy was Extended. I was Forgiven.**

WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO YOU WHEN YOU DIE? ARGUMENTS FROM BEYOND ETERNITY

7.) From beyond eternity – His power is known

Psalms 66:7

He rules by His power forever;

This is known as the Omnipotence of God

(The All Mighty God or All Powerful God)

The sciences grant us access to the wonders of God.

“God’s power is like Himself, self-existent, self-sustained. The mightiest of men cannot add so much as a shadow of increased power to the Omnipotent One. He sits on no buttressed throne and leans on no assisting arm. His court is not maintained by His courtiers, nor does it borrow its splendor from His creatures. He is Himself the great central source and Originator of all power.”

- Charles H. Spurgeon

Ephesians 1:19-21

and what *is* the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power :**20** which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated *Him* at His right hand in the heavenly *places*, :**21** far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.

Philippians 3:10

that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,

All power is available to me:

against fear / defeat sin / stand strong / resist temptation

**WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO YOU WHEN YOU DIE?
ARGUMENTS FROM BEYOND ETERNITY**

8.) From beyond eternity – His grace is evident

Psalms 145:8a

The LORD *is* **gracious**

Isn't Salvation Itself
Evidence of God's Amazing Grace?

Luke 4:22

So all bore witness to Jesus, and marveled at the **gracious** words which proceeded out of His mouth.

{God's Nature is Gracious}

John 1:1-3, 14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. :**2** He was in the beginning with God. :**3** All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. :**14** And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

If you wanna see what God is like and how He thinks and what He does. Look at Jesus Christ – the Son of God, the Manifestation of God to us.

**WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO YOU WHEN YOU DIE?
ARGUMENTS FROM BEYOND ETERNITY**

9.) From beyond eternity – His mercy endures

Psalms 136:1-26

26 times in as many verses that chapter says
“For His mercy endures forever.”

Psalms 145:8-10

The LORD *is* gracious and full of compassion, Slow to anger and great in mercy. **:9**
The LORD *is* good to all, And His tender mercies *are* over all His works. **:10** All Your
works shall praise You, O LORD, And Your
saints shall bless You.

Psalms 103:8

The LORD *is* merciful and gracious, Slow to anger, and abounding in mercy.

Psalms 103:13

As a father **pities** *his* children, So the LORD pities those who fear Him.

**WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO YOU WHEN YOU DIE?
ARGUMENTS FROM BEYOND ETERNITY**

10.) From beyond eternity – His vengeance is coming

*We Struggle When It Looks to Us Like Evil is Winning. But it is Certainly Not –
It’s Hastening Toward Its End.*

Genesis 6:3

“My Spirit shall not always **strive** with man,

Psalms 7:11 AMP

I am angry with the wicked every day.

Deuteronomy 32:35

Vengeance is Mine, and recompense; Their foot shall slip in *due* time; For the day of
their calamity *is* at hand, And the things to come hasten upon them.’

Deuteronomy 32:35 NLT

I will take revenge; I will pay them back. In due time their feet will slip. Their day of
disaster will arrive, and their destiny will overtake them.’

“The wrath of God is as much a Divine perfection as is His faithfulness, power, or mercy. It must be so, for there is no blemish whatever, not the slightest defect in the character of God; yet there would be if "wrath" were absent from Him!

A. W. Pink

Romans 1:18-19

For the **wrath** of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who **suppress** the truth in unrighteousness, **:19** because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown *it* to them. **:20** For since the creation of the world His invisible *attributes* are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse,

I Wanna End With This: The Vengeance of God.

“Is the displeasure and indignation of Divine equity against evil.
Wrath is the holiness of God stirred into action against unrented sin.”

Luke 4:14-21

Then Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and news of Him went out through all the surrounding region. **:15** And He taught in their synagogues, being glorified by all. **:16** So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read. **:17** And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written: **:18** *“The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed; :19 To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD.”* **:20** Then He closed the book, and gave *it* back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him. **:21** And He began to say to them, “Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.”

But That’s Odd - Why Did Jesus Stop @ a Comma?

Isaiah 61:2

To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD,
And the day of vengeance of our God;

End of Study