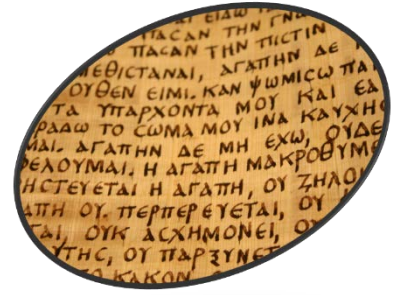


1 Corinthians – “Unity in Christ”

Lesson #16



I. The Gospel & witnesses

a. Read 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

b. Where else does Paul emphasize that he preached the Gospel to the Corinthians? (vss 1-2)

i. See 1 Corinthians 1:22-23; 2:1-5

c. Verses 3-5 are probably the clearest statements about the Gospel in the Bible. What four things are important about these verses?

d. How many witnesses does it take in a trial to convince a jury? (vss 6-7)

e. Why was Paul “untimely born”? (vs 9)

i. See Acts 9

II. Without the resurrection, what’s the point?

a. Read 1 Corinthians 15:12-19

b. Count how many times Paul uses the formula, *if, then*. Is this style a convincing way to argue a point?

c. The main issue is the resurrection of Christ and what that means for believers. What is the outcome of refusing to believe in the resurrection of the dead? (vs 17)

d. Consider why the resurrection is so important for our faith. (Romans 4:25)

III. Christ leads the way

a. Read 1 Corinthians 15:20-34

b. What came from Adam? What came from Christ? (vss 21-22)

c. How are we connected to Christ? (vs 23)

i. See Romans 6:3-5

d. Some people say death is a natural part of life, but what does vs 26 say?

e. Verse 29 seems to talk about baptizing the dead. What does Paul mean?

f. Why does Paul put his life on the line to share the Gospel? (vss 30-32)

IV. How does the resurrection work?

a. Read 1 Corinthians 15:35-50

b. Have you ever wondered what kind of glorified body we will have after the resurrection of the dead?

c. How different is an apple seed compared to a full-grown apple tree?

d. What does “sown” mean in verses 42-44?

e. Was Jesus just a spirit? (vs 45)

f. What does Jesus teach about the flesh and the spirit? (vs 50)

i. See John 3:3-6

V. **When the time comes...**

a. Read 1 Corinthians 15:51-58

b. What does it mean that we will not all “sleep”? (vs 51)

i. See 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

c. As you read these verses, in what ways do they encourage you?

d. God has long promised victory over death. What Old Testament passages is Paul quoting in verses 54-55?

i. See Isaiah 25:8; Hosea 13:14

e. What other Old Testament readings point to the resurrection?

i. See Isaiah 26:19; Psalm 16:10; Job 19:25-26

f. What does it mean that “your work is not in vain”? (vs 58)

VI. **Next time...**

a. Read 1 Corinthians 16:1-24