

**Resurrection Sunday 2010 – “Why Are You Here?”**

- I. **Why Are You Here?:** *“What kind of question is that?!”*
- A. Based on recent Barna Group study, a worthwhile question to ask & answer...
    1. Do you see Easter as a religious celebration?
    2. Is Easter linked to the Christian belief in the resurrection of Jesus?
  - B. “Born again” (personal commitment to Jesus; going to heaven because of Jesus) – 81% & \_\_\_\_%
  - C. “Evangelicals” (“born again + 7 more listed beliefs) – 93% & \_\_\_\_%...
  - D. In all 42% of Americans said meaning of Easter was the resurrection of Jesus or close to it...
  - E. \_\_% of all respondents described Easter as the most important holiday of their faith.
  - F. 54% of active churchgoers see Easter explicitly as the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus.
  - G. So, why are you here? How does that impact your life?
- II. **1 Corinthians 15: Quintessential Passage Regarding Resurrection...**
- A. Nothing new under the sun...The apparent issue: Verse \_\_\_\_
  - B. Paul was not unfamiliar with these kinds of issues (See Acts 17:32)
  - C. Concept of resurrection was very difficult to the Greek mind/culture.
- III. **It’s The Essence of the Gospel:** *(1 Corinthians 15:1-4)*
- A. It’s what I preached; you received; you stand in it – it’s what brings salvation...the Gospel!
  - B. Christ died for our \_\_\_\_; He was buried; He was \_\_\_\_\_ – early church emphasized these too!
- IV. **Evidence for the Resurrection: Historical Argument – 3-fold** *(1 Corinthians 15:1-11)*
- A. 1<sup>st</sup> – It has always been part of the Gospel proclamation, part of earliest Christian creeds/beliefs.
  - B. 2<sup>nd</sup> – Death & resurrection of Jesus are according to OT (See Isaiah 53 & \_\_\_\_\_ 13:33-35)
  - C. 3<sup>rd</sup> – Number of eyewitness appearances; number of different people & different kinds of people...
  - D. This resurrection was not some kind of visionary experience – physical resurrection is in view.
- V. **Consequences of No Resurrection: Logical Argument** *(1 Corinthians 15:12-19)*
- A. If there is no resurrection of the dead then Jesus must not have been raised either. Therefore:
    1. Our preaching is \_\_\_\_;
    2. Your faith is vain
    3. We are false witnesses to God
    4. Your \_\_\_\_\_ is worthless
    5. It’s over for those dead
    6. We are the most to be \_\_\_\_\_
  - B. But since Christ has been raised from the dead, then therefore:
    1. Preaching is significant;
    2. Faith is well-founded
    3. We are \_\_\_\_\_ witnesses to God
    5. Your faith is valuable
    5. Those dead are alive
    6. We are the most to be \_\_\_\_\_
- VI. **Order of Resurrection – Theological Argument** *(1 Corinthians 15:20-28)*
- A. Jesus’ resurrection is the first fruits – His \_\_\_\_\_ the resurrection of all who follow Him.
  - B. Paul contrasts the 1<sup>st</sup> Adam, who brought death, to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Adam, Jesus, who brought life...
  - C. Order of resurrection...death is abolished...all things put in subjections...\_\_\_\_\_ is all in all.
- VII. **His Life as Proof: Experiential Argument** *(1 Corinthians 15:29-34)*
- A. If the dead are not raised then his life has been lived foolishly...
  - B. With no resurrection, he would live by motto: eat and drink for tomorrow we \_\_\_\_\_...
- VIII. **Nature of Resurrection Body:** *(1 Corinthians 15:35-49)*
- A. Uses variety of means to remind readers of God’s design, power, ways, & purposes.
  - B. Sown perishable...raised imperishable body.
  - C. Sown in dishonor...raised in \_\_\_\_\_.
  - D. Sown in weakness...raised in \_\_\_\_\_.
  - E. Sown natural...raised spiritual body
  - F. 1<sup>st</sup> man was earthy body, we bear his image. 2<sup>nd</sup> man from heaven, we will bear His image.
- IX. **Mystery of Resurrection:** *(1 Corinthians 15:50-58)*
- A. We will all be changed...in a moment (think 1 \_\_\_\_\_ 4:16-17)
  - B. Perishable puts on imperishable and the mortal puts on immortality!
  - C. Climatic Key – Death is swallowed up in victory...In \_\_\_\_\_, we have victory over death!
- His sinless perfect life culminates in His substitutionary death...which culminates with His resurrection...*
- X. **Practical Reality Right Now of Resurrection:** *(1 Corinthians 15:59)*
- A. Since it’s true then live your life for Jesus Christ, for God’s glory...don’t fear \_\_\_\_\_...
  - B. Know that Jesus is coming with His reward...lay up \_\_\_\_\_ in heaven...eternal perspective