

It's a Wonderful Resurrection (1 Cor 15:12-34)

I. Introduction

- A. *It's a Wonderful Life*
 - 1. What would life be like if ...
- B. Outline of sermon; read the text; pray

II. The Logical Consequences if there were no Resurrection?

- A. **1 Cor 15:1-11** (review) The foundation of our resurrection lies in the fact of Christ's resurrection
 - 1. The false belief of some in Corinth – “the immortality of disembodied souls”
 - a. Homer, Plato, Josephus, Justin Martyr, today
- B. **1 Cor 15:12-19** – The resurrection of the Christian is just as certain as the resurrection of Christ
 - 1. v. 12 – Paul is astonished that some do not believe this
 - 2. v. 13 – Then Christ is not raised
 - a. Union with Christ (Rom 6:5, John 14:19)
 - 3. If Christ is not risen ... the logical consequences:
 - a. Preaching is in vain (v. 14)
 - b. Your faith is vain (v. 14)
 - c. Your witness is false (v. 15)
 - d. Your sin remains unforgiven (v. 17, Rom 4:25, 5:10)
 - e. The dead have perished without hope (v. 18)
 - f. We are to be pitied (v. 19)
- C. **1 Corinthians 15:29-32** – *Ad Hominem* arguments for the logical inconsistency of their position that there is no resurrection
 - 1. Baptism for the dead (whatever that is) is needless (v. 29)
 - 2. Paul's sufferings are pointless (v. 30-32, 2 Cor 11:23-27, Rom 8:18)
- D. **1 Corinthians 15:33-34** – the reality of the resurrection affirms the importance of how we are to live now

III. The Glorious Consequences Since the Resurrection is True

- A. **1 Cor 15:20-23** Two analogies which demonstrate the resurrection
 - 1. First fruits (v. 20,23)
 - 2. Adam-Christ analogy (v. 21-22)
 - a. Jesus had to rise as a man, for men to be raised
- B. **1 Cor 15:24-28** – The order of end-time events set into motion by Christ's resurrection
 - 1. Christ rises, we rise, the final enemy, death, is destroyed
 - 2. Meanwhile Christ is reigning (v. 25)
 - 3. God will be all in all (v. 28) – At the final consummation, even the Son will submit to the Father's unchallenged rule
- C. The surety that judgment day and the resurrection are coming

IV. Do you believe in Your Final Bodily Resurrection?

- A. **Rejoice** for your Redeemer lives, and in the end He will stand on the earth! (Job 19:25) and you will see Him, face to face! (1 Jn 3:2)