

I. Without the Resurrection, We Are Driven to Despair (15:12-19)

If There Is No Resurrection, Then:

1. Christ Has Not Been Raised (15:13, 3-8)
2. Preaching is Meaningless (15:14; Rom 10:9-10, 13-14, 17)
3. Your Faith is Meaningless (15:14; Heb 11:1; John 20:29-31)
4. The Apostles are Liars (15:16; Acts 1:22; 2:32)
5. You Are Still Dead in Your Sin (15:16-17, 56; Rom 4:24-25; 6:23)
6. Dead Believers Have Perished (15:18; Phil 3:7-11)
7. Hope Is Dashed; We Are to Be Pitied (15:19, 32; Eph 2:12)

II. But Christ Has Been Raised, So We Rejoice in the Good News! (12:20-23; Lev 23:15-21)

“If Christ is not raised from the dead, then everything based on that belief collapses in a heap of broken dreams. . . . If Christ is not raised, then our hope is nothing more than whistling in the dark. Christians become pathetic dupes, taken in by a colossal fraud. Their transformation and glorious spiritual experiences in this life are all make-believe. They are the most pitiable of all human beings because they have embraced Christ’s death and suffering in this life for nothing.” —David E. Garland

Reflection and Application Questions (for personal reflection and family conversation):

1. What are the implications of denying the resurrection? Which is the most serious to you?
2. How do you know that Christ’s resurrection is true? What are the implications of Christ’s resurrection?