





**STEADFAST
AND
IMMOVABLE**

1 COR. 15:58



1 COR. 15:58 "THEREFORE,
MY BELOVED BROTHERS, BE
STEADFAST, IMMOVABLE,
ALWAYS ABOUNDING IN
THE WORK OF THE LORD,
KNOWING THAT IN THE
LORD YOUR LABOR IS NOT
IN VAIN."

(GROUNDED IN TRUTH –
NOT DECEIVED)

1 COR. 15:58

RESURRECTION

- "more than 500 brethren at once" (1 Cor.15:4-8).
- These witnesses could touch and handle him (1 Jn.1:1-2)
- Witnesses were hesitant to believe at first (Mk.16:11,14)
- Dramatic change in the eye – witnesses.
- Thomas (Jn.20:19-20, 24-29)
- **Luke 24:13 – 32 He has really risen.**



AND THEIR EYES WERE OPENED



- “21 But **we had hoped** that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the **third day** since these things happened....
- 31 And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight. 32 They said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the **Scriptures?**" (Luke 24)

- Acts 2:31 - 32 "he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. 32 This Jesus **God raised up**, and of that we all are witnesses."
- Acts 3:15 "and you killed the Author of life, whom God **raised from the dead**. To this we are witnesses." (Peter and John)

**GOD RAISED
JESUS FROM
THE DEAD**

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- Acts 10:39 – 41 “And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, but **God raised him** on the third day and made him to appear, 41 not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he **rose from the dead.**”

GOD RAISED JESUS FROM THE DEAD

- Acts 13:30 – 33 “But God **raised him from the dead**, 31 and for many days he appeared to those who had come up with him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are now his witnesses to the people. 32 And we bring you the good news that what **God promised** to the fathers, 33 this he has **fulfilled** to us their children **by raising Jesus**, as also it is written in the second Psalm, “You are my Son, today I have begotten you.””

CLASSICAL GREEK AND ROMAN AUTHORS

■ Author	Date of Writing	First Copy	Time Gap	Number of Copies
■ Thucydides	460-400 B.C.	900 A.D.	1300 years	8
■ Plato	427-347 B.C.	1100 A.D.	1400 years	20
■ Aristotle	345-322 B.C.	1100 A.D.	1400 years	49
■ Caesar	100-44 B.C.	900 A.D.	1000 years	10
■ Tacitus	100 A.D.	1100 A.D.	1000 years	20
■ Suetonius	75-160 A.D.	950 A.D.	800 years	8
■ New Test.	50 – 100 A.D.	250 A.D.	150 years	5,800

LIAR, LUNATIC OR LORD

- “I am trying here to prevent anyone saying the really foolish thing that people often say about Him: ‘I’m ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don’t accept His claim to be God.’ That is the one thing you must not say. A man who was merely a man and said the things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic... or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is the Son of God: or else a madman or something worse. You can shut Him up for a fool, you can spit at Him and kill Him as a demon; or you can fall at His feet and call Him Lord and God. But let us not come with any **patronizing nonsense** about His being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to.” (C.S. Lewis: *Mere Christianity*)

THREE REALMS OF EVIDENCE

Apostolic Authority

Historical Evidence

Logic and Reasonable
Consequences

1 CORINTHIANS

15:1-2

- “Now I want to make clear for you, brothers and sisters, the gospel I preached to you, which you received, on which you have taken your stand ² and by which you are being saved, if you hold to the message I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.” (CSB)
- Gospel I preached to you as an **apostle** with the authority of an apostle
- (1 Cor 1:1 – 2; 4:17; 7:17; 1 Cor. 11:1)

**“UNLESS YOU
BELIEVED IN
VAIN” (15:2)**

I preached the gospel – you have to hold fast. Started out well but you must not quit (cf. 1 Cor. 10:12)

Your being saved by this gospel - only saved by the gospel if it is the gospel that I preached to you.

If you accept everything you were taught except the resurrection – then you did not believe the truth of the good news.

There is only salvation in the gospel that I preached. (cf. Gal. 1:6 – 9)

RAISED ON THE THIRD DAY



- “For I delivered to you as of **first importance** what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the **Scriptures**, 4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the **Scriptures**, (1 Cor. 15:3 – 4)
- “But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.” (15:57)

RAISED ON THE THIRD DAY



- “and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. 6 After that He appeared to more than **five hundred brethren** at one time, most of whom remain until now, but some have fallen asleep; 7 then He appeared to James, then to all the apostles; and last of all, as to one untimely born, He appeared to me also.”
- 1 Cor. 15:5 - 8

TRUTH BASED UPON VERIFIABLE FACT

- Luke 1:1 – 4 “Inasmuch as many have undertaken to compile an account of the things accomplished among us, 2 just as they were handed down to us by those who from the beginning were **eyewitnesses** and servants of the word, 3 it seemed fitting for me as well, having investigated everything carefully from the beginning, to write *it* out for you in consecutive order, most excellent Theophilus; 4 so that you may know **the exact truth** about the things you have been taught.” (NASB)

TRUTH BASED UPON PROMISED SCRIPTURE

Luke 24:25 – 27 “And he said to them, “O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the **prophets have spoken!**”

Luk 24:26 Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?”

Luk 24:27 And beginning with **Moses and all the Prophets**, he interpreted to them in all the **Scriptures** the things concerning himself.”

PAUL'S EYE – WITNESS TESTIMONY (1 COR. 9:1; PH'P. 3:8-11)

- “Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that **I may gain Christ** 9 and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which **comes through faith in Christ**, the righteousness from God **that depends on faith**— 10 that I may know him and the **power of his resurrection**, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, 11 that by any means possible I may attain the **resurrection** from the dead.”

THE RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD (1 COR. 15:12 – 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, not even Christ has been raised; 14 and if Christ has not been raised, then our **preaching is vain**, your **faith also is vain**. 15 Moreover we are even found *to be false witnesses of God*, because we testified against God that He raised Christ, whom He did not raise, if in fact the dead are not raised...

THE RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD (1 COR. 15:12 – 19)

- “16 For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised; 17 and if Christ has not been raised, **your faith is worthless**; you are **still in your sins**. 18 Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have **perished**. 19 If we have hoped in Christ in this life only, we are of all men **most to be pitied**.”



BUT CHRIST DID RISE FROM THE DEAD. THEREFORE:

My Preaching is not
in Vain

Your faith is not
empty – useless

I am not a liar

I did not blaspheme
or misrepresent God
as a false witness of
His powerful work.

You are not still in
your sins

Those who have died
in Christ have not
perished

We are not to be
pitied.



TRUTH MATTERS AND THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST IS TRUE

For the
Common Go

- “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to **a living hope** through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you,” (1 Peter 1:3 – 4)

WHAT DOES YOUR CONFESSION SAY?

- (Rom. 10:9 – 11) “because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. For the Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.”





ARE YOU RAISED TO NEW LIFE?

- “Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 4 We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as **Christ was raised from the dead** by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in **newness of life**. 5 For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a **resurrection like his.**” (Romans 6:3 – 5)