

CALL to PRAYER - Thank God for conquering death in the death & resurrection of His Son!

1 Corinthians 15:1-9 - UTMOST IMPORTANCE

Intro - Today is a special day. Lord's Day...Resurrection Day...Lord's Supper Day. We meet the 1st day of every week in remembrance of resurrection, and we *do this in remembrance* of Him. The singing/sermon are moving toward the supper. The giving & praying are all in preparation for the partaking and fellowshiping with our risen Lord. We are here to proclaim a death... but not a dead Savior. He is the Living One (Rev. 1:18)! We come to proclaim & embrace the gospel and we do this by proclaiming & embracing Gods Only Son. We are here to taste & see that the Lord is good. And we are here to remember some things that are of *utmost importance*.

JESUS IS THE GOSPEL

- The *GOOD NEWS* is about the only good man who ever lived...the God-Man
 - He is the gospel...the gospel of God...God who became man...only good man
 - *"There is no one good except God"* - Luke 18:19 Jesus is good, and Jesus is God
- We just finished a series on the 10 Commandments
 - The commandments condemn us. They show us our sin...where we come short
 - The law leaves us wanting....and wanting a Savior (Gal. 3:24)
- The commandments condemn us & instruct us...but only Jesus can save us
 - The law brings us bad news but Jesus is the good news!
 - Jesus is the gospel. To believe the gospel is to receive & embrace Jesus Christ
 - There are some things of utmost importance in the gospel

HE DIED FOR OUR SINS ACCORDING TO THE SCRIPTURES

1. Jesus died because of sin 1 Cor. 15:3 in one sense...the same reason we all die
 - i. *The wages of sin is death* - Rom. 6:23a Sin brings death
2. Jesus didn't die for His own sin. Jesus was sinless
 - a. *"Which of you convicts Me of sin?"* - John 8:46 *"I have betrayed innocent blood"* - Matt. 27:4
 - b. Pilate publicly declared *"I find no fault in this Man"* 3x's! - John 18:38; 19:4; 19:6
 - i. Warned by his wife - Matt. 27:19 Washed his hands - Matt. 27:24
3. Jesus died for OUR sins 1 Cor. 15:3
 - a. Jesus' death was a **SUBSTITUTIONARY DEATH**. In was in the place of others
 - i. He took the place of Barabbas...and a whole bunch of other *Barabbas-es*
4. Jesus' death shows that God takes sin seriously
 - a. God did not spare His own Son when others sin was place on Him - Rom. 8:32
 - b. Every sin will be paid for...either by eternal torment or in the personal Substitute

HE WAS BURIED

- Jesus' death was a real death with a real burial 1 Cor. 15:4a
 - Didn't break His legs...spear in side...blood & water. Centurion confirmed
 - Wrapped in cloth and spices. Buried with the rich Tomb guarded

- Real death and real burial but it was also really symbolic
 - “....buried He carried my sins far away....”
 - Your sin can be buried...buried with Christ!

HE ROSE FROM THE DEAD ON THE THIRD DAY...

1. The *certainty* of the resurrection
 - a. Eyewitness testimony 1 Cor. 15:4-8
 - b. 1 John 1:1 they saw Him...touched Him...talked with Him....ate with Him...
 - c. The soldiers were the first to know the fact of the resurrection
 - i. Reported it to the chief priests...paid cover up (Matt. 28:11-15)
 - ii. You can know the facts but still have no faith
2. The *necessity* of the resurrection. If the resurrection is a hoax, then we have no hope
 - a. 1 Cor. 15:14 if it is not true then why are we here?
 - i. Preaching & faith are useless & empty exercises
 - b. 1 Cor. 15:17-18 If it is not true then we are through. Turn out the lights...over
 - i. Let us eat and drink for tomorrow we die, and we are all damned
 - ii. the computer alerted me that this language might be offensive :}
 - c. 1 Cor. 15:19 we are stupid if our faith is not based on facts
3. The *testimony* of the resurrection
 - a. It shows that Jesus is sinless. Sinful men condemned Him, but God raised Him
 - i. Acts 3:14-15
 - b. It shows that Jesus is the Son of God
 - i. Jesus openly predicted His death & resurrection to friend & enemies alike
 - ii. Jesus raised Himself from the dead - John 10:17-18
 - iii. Rom. 1:4
 - c. It shows that Jesus can save us. Rom. 4:25
 - i. 2 Cor. 5:21
 - ii. The resurrection proves that God accepted the Substitute and will save us

- We eat in *Humiliation* because of our sin
- We eat in *Appreciation* because He is our Substitute
- We eat in *Anticipation* of a coming reunion 1 Cor. 11:26
 - His resurrection means our resurrection and soon to reunion - what a party!
 - “Living He loved me...dying He....buried He....rising He...one day He’s coming...”

Let us eat and rejoice

Open communion	Fencing the Table	Examining yourself	Discerning the Body
<i>Man of Sorrows! What a name</i>	<i>for the Son of God who came</i>	<i>Ruined sinners to reclaim</i>	<i>Hallelujah what a Savior!</i>
<i>Bearing shame and scoffing rude</i>	<i>in my place condemned He stood</i>	<i>sealed my pardon with His blood</i>	
<i>Hallelujah, what a Savior!</i>			
<i>Guilty vile and helpless we</i>	<i>spotless Lamb of God was He</i>	<i>Full atonement! can it be?</i>	<i>Hallelujah, what a Savior!</i>
<i>Lifted up was He to die,</i>	<i>“It is Finished,” was His cry;</i>	<i>now in heaven exalted high</i>	<i>Hallelujah, what a Savior!</i>
<i>When He comes our glorious king,</i>	<i>All His ransomed home to bring,</i>	<i>Then anew this song we’ll sing,</i>	<i>Hallelujah, what</i>
<i>a Savior!</i>			