

# We Believe in ~~an Afterlife~~ the Resurrection of the Body

## 1 CORINTHIANS 15

Cov Pres

RESURRECTION SUNDAY

8 April A.D. 2012

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***“RESURRECTION LABOR” IS NOT IN VAIN, BUT EXPANDS THE GOSPEL’S MASSIVE, TRANSFORMING WORK.***

Introduction: A.

**Palm Sunday—Mark 11:1-26:**

1/ The King Coming to His Temple (Malachi 3.1-12)

2a/ The cursing of the Israel/the fig tree which had only the appearance of fruit.

2b/ The Cleansing of the Temple: a den of robbers (Jer 7:2-11) not a house of prayer for the nations (Isa 56:1-8)

2c/ The withering of the cursed fig tree & promise of power to remove mountains in the way of  
God’s mission (even the mountain of the Temple—Titus & the Roman legions in A.D. 70).

*Every valley shall be exalted & every hill made low!*

No sacrifices since; they are not needed since God’s Prophet/King/Priest sacrificed himself for our sin.

B. What things are of first importance re: the Gospel? The ultimate exaltation of our King!

**1 Cor 15:1-2:**

**15:1 The Gospel you believe is something preached:** *you hear it, whether by a person directly or through some media—the Scripture itself, or a summary in printed, audio, or video form.*

**15:1 The Gospel is something you personally receive.**

**15:2 The Gospel is not merely where you begin, but also where you stand/hold fast:** *believing the gospel is no rash, empty religious decision, but knowing and being known by a resurrected person, Jesus Christ.*

**1 Cor 15:3-11**

**15:3 The Gospel is Christ-centered:** *you don’t have the gospel if your faith is in a vague God (theism)—or gods who are part of the material world (pantheism, animism, spiritism). Jesus Christ, him crucified for our sins and then resurrected!*

**15:3-4 The Gospel is God-centered/Theological:** *it is according to God’s plan (according to God’s scriptures) that all this occurred in this way and at this time.*

**15:3-4 The Gospel is Biblical:** *you cannot separate it from the Word of God breathed out, written and illuminated by the Spirit.*

**15:5-11 The Gospel is Apostolic:** *more than 500 witnesses, but the focus is on the apostles to whom Christ promised the Spirit to give us the Word.*

Note that this also means **the gospel is historical:** *it doesn't take place in a vague world of ideas.*

**15:7-11 The gospel is well displayed only in personal, self-humiliation:** *Paul, Peter and we demonstrate not pride but a worth restored only by loving, redemptive grace.*

**15:10 Gospel grace & humility lead to labor:** *not to earn anything but hearts of grace spread the grace of a resurrected Christ.*

**1 Cor 15:20-28**

**15:24-28 The Gospel is powerfully political:** *though contested it is advancing until Christ is victorious over all and all are resurrected unto either eternal life or eternal judgment.*

**1 Cor 15:35, 42-49**

**15:44 The Gospel Resurrection is BODILY not immaterial:** *the terms "natural" and "spiritual" refer to the source of the life of the body not whether or not the body can be touched and felt. Natural: Greek=psukikos, pertaining to life & breath v. Spiritual: Greek=pneumatikos, pertaining to the Spirit. The contrast is the source of the life: first creation life or new life in/from Christ.*

**1 Cor 15:50-58**

**15:58 The Resurrection is a call to abounding work:** *this chapter comes at the end of a book that repeatedly shows how the gospel rightly works out in the massive transformation of attitudes, morals, relationships and cultural interactions.*