

Message Title: Why the Resurrection Matters!

1 Corinthians 15:1-19 NASB | Sunday AM, April 4th, 2021 | Pastor Derek Mackie ¹Now I make known to you, brothers and sisters, the gospel which I preached to you, which you also received, in which you also stand, 2 by which you also are saved, if you hold firmly to the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain. ³ For I handed down to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, ⁴ and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, 5 and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. 6 After that He appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom remain until now, but some have fallen asleep; 7then He appeared to James, then to all the apostles; 8 and last of all, as to one untimely born, He appeared to me also. 9 For I am the least of the apostles, and not fit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰ But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me did not prove vain; but I labored even more than all of them, yet not I, but the grace of God with me. 11 Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed. 12 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, then not even Christ has been raised; ¹⁴ and if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain, your faith also is in 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. ¹⁶ For if the dead are not raised, then 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 also those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. ¹⁹ If we have hoped in Christ only in this life, we are of all people most to be pitied.

Introduction		

1.	No Confidence in the	of Our
	Sin - v. 17	
2.	No Confidence in the	of Death
2.	No Confidence in the	of Death
2.		of Death

3. No Confidence in the	Hope - v. 19

Sermon Application Questions

- 1. How would you answer the person who said, "If Christianity works for you, that's fine; but it isn't for me"?
- 2. Are those who claim to be Christians but who are living for self and this world "believing in vain" (15:2)? What does that mean?
- 3. Why is it crucial to base our faith in the fact of Christ's resurrection rather than on our personal religious experience?
- 4. Some say, "I'd be a Christian even if there's no resurrection of the dead, because it's such a good life." The apostle Paul disagreed (1 Cor. 15:12-19). Why?

BE A DOER. Your responsibility, by God's enabling, is to consistently apply the divine principles and truths you have heard (Phil 2:12-13; 1 Tim 4:7-9; James 1:22-27). As you meditate on this message, ask yourself these questions: (1) How does God want my beliefs/actions to change? (2) How can I accomplish this change? (3) What is the first step toward bringing about this change?