



First Corinthians

Learning To Be Light in a Dark World

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**The Resurrection of Christ:
The Climax and Confirmation of the Gospel**
1 Corinthians 15:1-11
August 23, 2015
Dr. Mark Strauss

Theme: The last major theological issue Paul deals with in First Corinthians concerns the resurrection of the dead. Some of the Corinthians were denying the reality of a bodily resurrection. Paul begins by confirming the reality of Christ’s resurrection, which assures us both of the truth of the Gospel and the reality of our future resurrection.

Outline

1. The Problem at Corinth

2. The Importance of the Resurrection of Jesus
 - a. Vindication of Jesus’ Identity and Claims

 - b. Confirmation of the Truth of Christianity

 - c. Assurance that we, too, will be raised

3. Rationalistic Explanations for the Resurrection

- a. The Swoon Theory
- b. The Wrong Tomb Theory
- c. The Theft Theory
- d. Visionary and Legendary-Development Theories

4. Five Practically Irrefutable Facts Confirming the Resurrection

- a. Jesus died by crucifixion at the hands of the Romans around AD 30.
- b. Jesus was Buried in the Tomb of Joseph of Arimathea
- c. The Tomb was Discovered Empty on the Third Day
- d. Many Credible Witnesses Saw Jesus Alive
- e. The Transformed Lives of the Disciples

Takeaway: The historical reliability of Jesus' resurrection—and our own—should give us confidence to face any challenges life.

Next Cove: August 30, 2015

The Certainty of the Resurrection of the Dead
I Corinthians 15:9–34