

The Importance of the Resurrection
1 Cor. 15:12-20

"It is a serious thing to live in a society of possible gods and goddesses, to remember that the dullest and most uninteresting person you talk to may one day be a creature which, if you saw it now, you would strongly be tempted to worship, or else a horror and a corruption such as you now meet, if at all only in a nightmare. All day long we are, in some degree, helping each other to one or the other of these destinations. It is in the light of these overwhelming possibilities, it is with the awe and circumspection proper to them, that we should conduct all our dealings with one another, all friendships, all loves, all play, all politics. There are no ordinary people. You have never talked to a mere mortal." (Stedman quoting C.S. Lewis)

- I. When Christ redeemed us, he did not just redeem our spirits and souls, he redeemed us as a whole person, meaning that he redeemed our bodies also. He redeemed a believer's body, soul and spirit for glorification so that we could dwell with him as a whole person for eternity; that's eternal life. This is the hope we possess because of our faith in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior.

Rom. 8:18-24

Job 14:5 *A person's days are determined; you have decreed the number of his months and have set limits he cannot exceed.*

Romans 8:23-24 *23Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, **the redemption of our bodies**. 24For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have?*

- II. Without the veracity of the resurrection, our lives would be no better off than that of an animal confined to its basic instincts without any understanding of life after death. In Fact, without the resurrection, the truth of Scriptures would be nullified and without effect, and our faith would be a joke and no different than what non-believers put their faith in.

1 Cor. 15:12-19

Luke 24:46-47

Luke 16:22-26

Rom. 1:17

Jn. 8:23

Heb. 6:18-19

Eph. 2:12-13

2 Corinthians 5:1-3 *1For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands. 2Meanwhile we groan, longing to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling, 3because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked.*

- III. Unbelief does not nullify the truth of Christ's resurrection. Consequently, as believers our witness is not useless; it has power and is based on absolute truth. And our faith is not useless; it has value, it's powerful, full of hope, meaning and encouragement as we eagerly anticipate our glorification as those who have been counted among the redeemed.

1 Cor. 15:20

2 Cor. 4:5-7

Rom. 6:20-23

2 Cor. 5:6

Hebrews 11:1 *Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.*