


Day 1

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today's study.

The Resurrection of the Dead

¹² But if it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead?

2 Timothy 4:1-2

¹ In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: ² Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke, and encourage — with great patience and careful instruction.

Q1. If someone in a private conversation said to you, “It is fiction that someone who died was raised from the dead.”, how would you answer?

Q2. If Jesus had not been resurrected after His terrible death, how might that have impacted our faith?

¹³ If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised.

¹⁴ And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith.


¹⁵ More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God, for we have testified about God that he raised Christ from the dead. But he did not raise him if in fact the dead are not raised. ¹⁶ For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either. ¹⁷ And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins. ¹⁸ Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost. ¹⁹ If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are to be pitied more than all men.

Q3. Verses 13-19: why do you think Paul wrote these words of debate to his Corinthian church?

Q4. Verses 13-19: were the Corinthians questioning the resurrection of Jesus?

Q5. Verse 19: why would Paul say that Believers should “be pitied more than all men”?

Day 2

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Hebrews 4:14-16

¹⁴ Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess.

¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are — yet was without sin. ¹⁶ Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

Q6. As you review Hebrews 4:14, why is Jesus referred to as a “high priest”?

Q7. As you review Hebrews 4:15, why does the writer of Hebrews even refer to a “high priest”?

Q8. Jesus was sinless; when was He tempted?

Hebrews 5:1-10 [A review of the priestly functions in the “Tent of Meeting” (or the 1st temple), which was crafted under Moses at God’s direction.]

¹ Every high priest is selected from among men and is appointed to represent them in matters related to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. ² He is able to deal gently with those who are ignorant and are going astray, since he himself is subject to weakness. ³ This is why he has to offer sacrifices for his own sins, as well as for the sins of the people.

⁴ No one takes this honor upon himself; he must be called by God, just as Aaron was. ⁵ So Christ also did not take upon himself the glory of becoming a high priest. But God said to him, "You are my Son; today I have become your Father." [Psalm 2:7] ⁶ And he says in another place, "You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek." [Psalm 110:4]

⁷ During the days of Jesus' life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with loud cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission.

⁸ Although he was a son, he learned obedience from what he suffered ⁹ and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him ¹⁰ and was designated by God to be high priest in the order of Melchizedek.

Genesis 14:18-20

¹⁸ Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. He was priest of God Most High, ¹⁹ and he blessed Abram, saying, "Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth. ²⁰ And blessed be God Most High, who delivered your enemies into your hand." Then Abram gave him a tenth of everything.


Leviticus 16:17, 29-34 [Moses' brother Aaron became Israel's 1st High Priest.]

¹⁷ No one is to be in the Tent of Meeting from the time Aaron goes in to make atonement in the Most Holy Place until he comes out, having made atonement for himself, his household, and the whole community of Israel. . . .

²⁹ "This is to be a lasting ordinance for you: On the tenth day of the seventh month, you must deny yourselves [i.e., fasting] and not do any work – whether native-born or an alien living among you – ³⁰ because on this day atonement will be made for you, to cleanse you. Then, before the Lord, you will be clean from all your sins. ³¹ It is a sabbath of rest, and you must deny yourselves; it is a lasting ordinance. ³² The priest who is anointed and ordained to succeed his father as high priest is to make atonement. He is to put on the sacred linen garments ³³ and make atonement for the Most Holy Place, for the Tent of Meeting and the altar, and for the priests and all the people of the community. ³⁴ "This is to be a lasting ordinance for you: Atonement is to be made once a year for all the sins of the Israelites." And it was done, as the Lord commanded Moses.

Exodus 23:16a

"Celebrate the Feast of Harvest with the firstfruits of the crops you sow in your field.

 "The Festival of Harvest (also called Weeks, Pentecost, or Shavout) is one of the three commanded festivals of Yahweh [The Lord God Almighty] during which all men are commanded to gather together in a set-apart convocation to worship Yahweh, our Father in Heaven." [© <https://www.truthofyahweh.org/harvest.html>]


Exodus 34:26a

"Bring the best of the firstfruits of your soil to the house of the Lord your God.

Leviticus 23:9-10

⁹ The Lord said to Moses, ¹⁰ "Speak to the Israelites and say to them: 'When you enter the land I am going to give you and you reap its harvest, bring to the priest a sheaf of the first grain [firstfruits] you harvest.

Day 3

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20 But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

Q9. What is a “firstfruit”?

 The following teaching comes from <https://www.biblestudytools.com/dictionary/firstfruits/> [Copyright © 2022, Bible Study Tools. All rights reserved.]

“The concept of firstfruits derives from God's creation work. Because God created everything that exists, all of creation belongs to him (Psalm 24:1). Consequently, that which is first and best belongs to him and is to be given to him.

“Because of God’s creative power and ownership of all, the Bible instructs believers to give God the best of the animal sacrifices (see Lev 1-5). The land is also viewed as a gift from God and the best of it, its ‘firstfruits,’ is to be given to him — crops (Exodus 23:16; Exodus 23:19), the wheat harvest (Exod 34:22; Lev 2:14; 23:20), olive oil (Num 18:12; Deut 18:4), the finest new wine (Num 18:12; Deut 18:4), honey (2 Chron 31:5), sheep wool (Deut 18:4), and fruit (Neh 10:35). The Old Testament makes it clear that everything that God's people have is to be viewed as from God and gained through his providence (Psalm 50:10).

“Believers are the ‘firstfruits of God’ – ‘a kind of firstfruits of all he created’ (James 1:18). Spiritual ‘firstfruits’ may be the first converts in an area (Rom 16:5). As ‘firstfruits’ believers are a testimony to God's power in salvation. . .

“In 1 Corinthians 15:20, 23, Paul teaches that Christ in his bodily resurrection is the “firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.” As such, he is the guarantee that all those who belong to him will be raised from the dead at his second coming. . .”

Q10. How would you define the phrase “fallen asleep”?

Q11. Is Jesus considered a “firstfruit”?

21 For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man.

Q12. Who introduced “death” upon mankind?

Q13. Was Jesus really a “man”?

Yes Why?
No

²² For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.

Q14. How do you explain verse 22?

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Q15. Who is “all”?

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Q16. Why do all die “in Adam”?

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Q17. How does Christ fulfill “all will be made alive”?

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Day 4

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²³ But each in his own turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him.

Q18. Who belongs to Jesus?

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Romans 1:6

And you also are among those who are called to belong to Jesus Christ.

Galatians 5:24

Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires.

Ephesians 1:4-8

⁴ For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love ⁵ He predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will — ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. ⁷ In

him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace ⁸ that he lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding.

²⁴ Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority, and power. ²⁵ For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet.

Q19. When does this happen?


Philippians 2:5-11

⁵ Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: ⁶ Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, ⁷ but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death — even death on a cross! ⁹ Therefore, God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

²⁶ The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

Q20. Why would “death” be the “last enemy”?

Day 5

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²⁷ For he "has put everything under his feet." [Psalm 8:6] Now when it says that "everything" has been put under him, it is clear that this does not include God himself, who put everything under Christ. ²⁸ When he has done this, then the Son himself will be made subject to him who put everything under him, so that God may be all in all.

Q21. Does a creator have dominion (control) over what s/he has created?

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Q22. Does Jesus have dominion over the world?

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John 1:1-3

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was with God in the beginning. ³ Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.


Q23. As you read John 1:3, how would you explain Jesus’ relationship to the world... and to us?

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²⁹ Now if there is no resurrection, what will those do who are baptized for the dead? If the dead are not raised at all, why are people baptized for them?

Q24. How would you explain verse 29?

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 “[In the early church] some believers were baptized on behalf of others who had died unbaptized. Nothing more is known about this practice, but it obviously affirms the belief in resurrection. Paul is not promoting baptism for the dead; he is illustrating his argument that the resurrection is a reality” [The Life Application® Bible, ©1991 by Tyndale House Publishers, page 2,087]

³⁰ And as for us, why do we endanger ourselves every hour? ³¹ I die every day — I mean that, brothers — just as surely as I glory over you in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Q25. Why did Paul say that “I die every day”?

Q26. Is Paul subscribing to the thought that “life itself is terminal”?

Day 6

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³² If I fought wild beasts in Ephesus for merely human reasons, what have I gained? If the dead are not raised, "Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die."

[Isaiah 22:13]

Q27. Is Paul suggesting that, if there is no eternal life through Jesus Christ, then we may as well live for this worldly moment or two in which we are alive?

³³ Do not be misled: "Bad company corrupts good character."

Q28. Is this statement true? It seems that some churches want to participate in the world, so that they can more effectively engage the world and change it. Is this a good strategy?

2 Corinthians 6:14-15

¹⁴ Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness? ¹⁵ What harmony is there between Christ and Belial? What does a believer have in common with an unbeliever?

³⁴ Come back to your senses as you ought, and stop sinning; for there are some who are ignorant of God — I say this to your shame.

Q29. Paul observed that there are some who are ignorant of God. What action was Paul suggesting? And does that action have any relevance for us, today?

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