

The Next Seven

Pastor Rusty Yost

Volume 1 Number 18

Essential Doctrines of the Faith ***The Bodily Resurrection of Christ***

1 Matthew's account of the resurrection

Reading: Matthew 28:1-20

2 Mark's account of the resurrection

Reading: Mark 16:1-20

3 Luke's account of the resurrection

Reading: Luke 24:1-53

4 John's account of the resurrection

Reading: John 20:1-31; 21:1-25

5 The apostles bear witness to the resurrection

Reading: Acts 3:1-4:33; 17:16-34

6 The necessity of the resurrection

Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-58; Cf. 2 Timothy 2:15-19

7 The hope of the resurrection

Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Cf. 1 Peter 1:1-5; John 11:1-45

Essential Doctrines of the Faith – Part Four

Lesson 14

Overview

The bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead is the cornerstone of the Christian faith. If Jesus did not rise from the dead our faith is vain, we have no hope of everlasting life, and nothing Jesus taught is trustworthy.

The integrity of Jesus Christ depends upon his bodily resurrection from the dead. He made such bold statements about his resurrection that failure to do so would relegate him to the status of a deranged man who deceived himself with the strange notion he was the Son of God (Cf. John 2:13-22; Matt. 26:57-66; 27:39-43; Mark 15:29-30; John 11:19-27).

However, the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead is the most attested to event in human history! Here is a quote from an article prepared by Josh McDowell that examines the historical authenticity of the bodily resurrection of Jesus:

“Professor Thomas Arnold, for 14 years a headmaster of Rugby, author of the famous, History of Rome, and appointed to the chair of modern history at Oxford, was well acquainted with the value of evidence in determining historical facts. This great scholar said: "I have been used for many years to study the histories of other times, and to examine and weigh the evidence of those who have written about them, and I know of no one fact in the history of mankind which is proved by better and fuller evidence of every sort, to the understanding of a fair inquirer, than the great sign which God hath given us that Christ died and rose again from the dead.

Brooke Foss Westcott, an English scholar, said: "raking all the evidence together, it is not too much to say that there is no historic incident better or more

variously supported than the resurrection of Christ. Nothing but the antecedent assumption that it must be false could have suggested the idea of deficiency in the proof of it."

Of course, the Biblical record leaves no doubt about the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. Only those unwilling to accept the record God gave of his beloved Son deny his bodily resurrection from the dead.

Anyone who thus proceeds to reject the resurrection is most certainly lost and should never be referred to as a Christian. All true believers confess that Jesus Christ rose from the dead (Romans 10:9).

In his famous chapter on the resurrection the Apostle Paul poignantly asks, *"Now if Christ be preached that he rose from the dead, how say some among you that there is no resurrection from the dead?"* Paul goes on to detail the necessity of the bodily resurrection of Jesus to the faith.

Like the believers of Paul's day residing in Corinth, we must come to grips with the essential nature of the bodily resurrection of Jesus from the dead. Apart from his resurrection we have no good news to preach!

It follows that anyone within the visible church who strays from a clear profession of faith in the resurrection of Jesus must immediately be corrected lest we embrace a false gospel and a false hope!

Key Passage this Week

- 1 Corinthians 15:1-58

Key Verses

- 1 Corinthians 15:20

Digging Deeper

For those students who desire additional reading on the subject of this lesson here are a few suggestions:

Infallible Proofs

<https://answersingenesis.org/jesus-christ/resurrection/infallible-proofs/>

Biblical and Extra-Biblical Evidences

<https://answersingenesis.org/jesus-christ/resurrection/biblical-and-extra-biblical-evidences/>

How we Know Jesus Christ Rose From the Dead

<http://www.pastorrusty.com/>

Family Discussion/Devotion

Essential Doctrines of the Faith

Part Four

Scripture: Luke 24:1-53; 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

Seven issues facing those in the church who doubt the resurrection of the dead:

Verse 13: _____

Verse 14: _____

Verse 15: _____

Verse 17: _____

Verse 18: _____

Verse 19: _____