

What If?

1 Corinthians 15:1-20

I. The Resurrection of Jesus Christ is Essential (vs. 1-11)

A. The resurrection is an indispensable component of the gospel message (vs. 1-4)

Galatians 1:11-12

In God's plan, the cross and the empty tomb are permanently and closely connected

B. The resurrection fulfills God's plan and purpose revealed in Scripture.

Luke 24:25-27

Psalms 16:10

C. The resurrection was confirmed by eyewitnesses (vs. 5-11)

The eyewitness accounts refute false theories of the resurrection

We know He lives because the historical evidence *demands* we believe in the resurrection of Jesus.

The eyewitness accounts provide overwhelming evidence to the resurrection

II. The Resurrection of Jesus Christ Meets My Deepest Needs and Longings (vs.12-20)

A. Our faith is well-founded (vs. 14)

Galatians 2:20

B. The gospel is true (vs. 15-16)

C. We are forgiven for our sins (vs. 17)

If the cross is the *payment* for our sins, the empty tomb is the *receipt*.

D. We have victory over death (vs. 18)

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

It is not just our spirit that has victory over death, but our bodies also.

E. We are not pitied, but to be envied (vs. 19)

2 Corinthians 4:17

F. Our preaching is not in vain (vs. 20)

Matthew 28:18-20