

The Risen Christ is Our Hope
1 Corinthians 15:9-19

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I. Not worthy. 1 Corinthians 15:9

In **1 Corinthians 15** Paul is actually showing _____ at the thought the Lord would use him in the ministry.

- “But Paul meant it. He regarded himself as the least of the apostles because he _____ the church of God.” (Guzik)

Paul had a healthy amount of repentance along with memory of past sin, mixed with a healthy amount of _____ towards the Lord for His grace and the call to ministry in Paul’s life.

II. Grace makes me worthy. 1 Corinthians 15:10-11

Paul was _____ by the Grace of God from the murderous persecutor Saul, into the Christ loving, Gospel preaching Apostle Paul.

- The Grace of God that saves us is also the Grace of God that changes us. If you have really received the Grace of God, it will certainly _____ you. **2 Corinthians 5:17**

As a Christian, you become a new creation who needs to rely fully on the Holy Spirit in order to do anything of eternal _____; but, we are still to offer ourselves as a living sacrifice to Christ. **Philippians 2:12-13**

III. Jesus is the proof of a bodily Resurrection. 1 Corinthians 15:12-13

This is an essential doctrine within historic Christianity - the _____ Resurrection of Christ. **John 2:19**

- If the doubting Corinthians were right and Jesus had not risen from the dead, then Jesus is still dead and that would be _____ for us.

IV. What if there was no Resurrection? 1 Corinthians 15:14-19

If Jesus did not rise from the dead, then your faith (trusting that He can save you from your sins) is empty and void of the _____ to save you.

- If death has power over Jesus, He is not _____. (Guzik)
- Therefore, if Jesus is not risen, He is _____ to save. (Guzik)

“The fact is, that the silver thread of resurrection runs through all the blessings, from regeneration onward to our eternal glory, and _____ them together.” (Spurgeon)

Small Group Discussion

Looking back at your notes from this week’s sermon, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

1. Read **1 Corinthians 15:9-10**. Why did Paul feel unworthy to be called an apostle? How was Paul able to call himself an apostle? On what did Paul’s apostleship rest?
John 15:1-5, Romans 11:29, 1 Corinthians 9:1-2, 2 Corinthians 3:5
2. Read **1 Corinthians 15:10-11**. How does God’s grace make a person worthy to serve?
Acts 13:43, Galatians 5:4, Ephesians 2:8-10, 1 Peter 5:12
3. Read **1 Corinthians 15:14-19**. If Christ had not in fact been raised, what would be true of Christianity and Christians? What condition would make a Christian’s faith futile? Why is faith in Christ useless and pitiable if Jesus has not been raised?
John 3:3-17, John 20:24-28, 2 Corinthians 5:17, Hebrews 11:6
4. “List all of the implications for us, if Christ did not rise from the dead.” (study and obey)
John 14:1-6, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-14
5. “Is Christianity worthwhile if all that is left is good morals? Is it beneficial to have faith in Christ, if He did not rise from the dead? Is it even a neutral thing where it doesn’t hurt? What does it make us if Christ did not rise from the dead?” (study and obey)