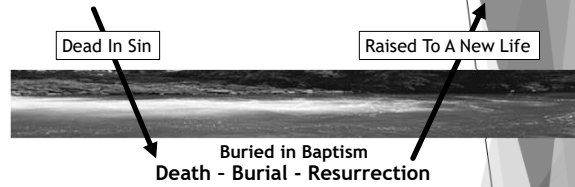


“If There Is No Resurrection”

1 Corinthians 15

Baptism: A Burial In Water Romans 6:3-4



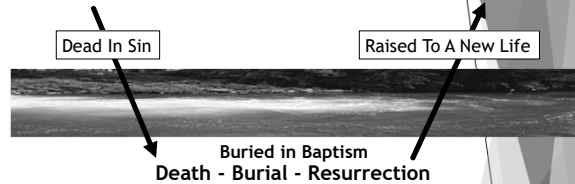
Romans 6:3-4, “Or are ye ignorant that all we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were **buried** therefore with him through baptism unto death: that like as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life.”

Background:

- ▶ Paul’s preaching in Corinth. Acts 18:5-11; cf. Acts 17:1-3
- ▶ Acts 18:8, “many of the Corinthians hearing believed, and were baptized.”
- ▶ Paul concerned about the Corinthians. 1 Corinthians 15:1-4
- ▶ Much controversy at that time over the resurrection. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
- ▶ The Sadducees denied it. Matthew 22:23-33; Acts 23:7-9
- ▶ Some in Athens mocked it. Acts 17:16-20, 32
- ▶ Some Corinthians did not believe it. 1 Corinthians 15:12

“if there be no resurrection”

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The Consequences: “If There Is No Resurrection”

Then Christ Was Not Raised

1 Corinthians 15:13, “But if there is no resurrection of the dead, neither hath Christ been raised”

1 Corinthians 15:16, “For if the dead are not raised, neither hath Christ been raised”

- ▶ Christ would still be in the grave.
 - ▶ All the promises He made would be lies. John 2:18-22
 - ▶ All the prophecies would be false. Acts 2:29-32

“if there be no resurrection”

Our Preaching, Your Faith Is Vain

1 Corinthians 15:14, "and if Christ hath not been raised, then is our preaching vain, your faith also is vain."

- ▶ The Apostle's preaching is useless.
- ▶ The preaching of every gospel preacher is useless.
- ▶ No need for the OT or the NT or the church.
- ▶ No need to partake of the Lord's supper.
 - ▶ 1 Corinthians 11:23-29, especially verse 26
 - ▶ "For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink the cup, ye proclaim the Lord's death till he come."

"if there be no resurrection"

The Apostles Are False Witnesses

1 Corinthians 15:15, "Yea, we are found false witnesses of God; because we witnessed of God that he raised up Christ: whom he raised not up, if so be that the dead are not raised."

- ▶ Apostles taught and testified that God raised up Christ.
 - ▶ Acts 1:1-5; 2:30-32; 3:14-15; 5:30-32; 10:39-41; 13:26-41
- ▶ What they taught would then be a lie!

"if there be no resurrection"

You Are Yet In Your Sins

1 Corinthians 15:17, "And if Christ hath not been raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins."

Baptism: A Burial In Water
Romans 6:3-4



Romans 6:3-4, "Or are ye ignorant that all we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him through baptism unto death: that like as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life."

"if there be no resurrection"

You Are Yet In Your Sins

1 Corinthians 15:17, "And if Christ hath not been raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins."

- ▶ Baptism into His death would be meaningless. Acts 2:38; 22:16
- ▶ Why be baptized?
 - ▶ If still in their sins, they are hopelessly lost.
 - ▶ Would still be "dead in trespasses and sin." Ephesians 2:1

"if there be no resurrection"

But ... You Are NOT Yet In Your Sins

- ▶ Baptism saves by man being able to clear the conscience of sin through obedience which is made possible by the resurrection of Christ.
 - ▶ 1 Peter 3:20-21, "That aforetime were disobedient, when the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water: which also after a true likeness doth now save you, (even) baptism, not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the interrogation of a good conscience toward God, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ"

"but now is Christ risen from the dead"

You Are NOT Yet In Your Sins

1 Corinthians 15:17, "And if Christ hath not been raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins."

Baptism: A Burial In Water
Romans 6:3-4



Romans 6:3-4, "Or are ye ignorant that all we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him through baptism unto death: that like as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life."

"if there be no resurrection"

The Dead In Christ Are Perished

1 Corinthians 15:18, "Then they also that are fallen asleep in Christ have perished."

- ▶ Any Christian who died is without hope
 - ▶ Stephen. Acts 7:58-8:1
 - ▶ James the brother of John. Acts 12:1-3
 - ▶ Christians Paul put to death. Acts 9:1-2; 26:9-10
 - ▶ Paul. 2 Timothy 4:6-8
 - ▶ Antipas. Revelation 2:13

"if there be no resurrection"

We Are of All Men Most Miserable

1 Corinthians 15:19, "If we have only hoped in Christ in this life, we are of all men most pitiable."

- ▶ If there is no hope after this life ...
 - ▶ Why continue to serve God? Revelation 2:10
 - ▶ Why endure to the end? 2 Timothy 2:3
 - ▶ Why suffer persecution? 2 Timothy 3:12
- ▶ 1 Corinthians 15:30, "Why do we also stand in jeopardy every hour?"
- ▶ The thought of being without hope in Christ if there is no resurrection – is a miserable thought!

"if there be no resurrection"

"if there be no resurrection"

- ▶ Then Christ Is Not Risen
- ▶ Our Preaching Is Vain
- ▶ Your Faith Is Vain
- ▶ The Apostles Are False Witnesses
- ▶ You Are Yet In Your Sins
- ▶ The Dead In Christ Are Perished
- ▶ We Are Of All Men Most Miserable

Paul Declares ...

"But now hath Christ been raised from the dead ..."

1 Corinthians 15:20

You Are NOT Yet In Your Sins

1 Corinthians 15:17, "And if Christ hath not been raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins."

Baptism: A Burial In Water
Romans 6:3-4

"if there be no-resurrection"

Romans 6:3-4, "Or are ye ignorant that all we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were *buried* therefore with him through baptism unto death: that like as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life."

1 Corinthians 15:58, "Wherefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not vain in the Lord."

CONCLUSION

“What shall we do?” Acts 2:38**▶ Sinners must ...**

- ▶ Hear the Gospel. Romans 10:17
- ▶ Believe it. John 8:24
- ▶ Repent of sin. Acts 17:30
- ▶ Confess Christ as Lord. Matthew 10:34
- ▶ Be baptized for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38); into the death of Christ, raised to walk a new life (Romans 6:3-4)

▶ An erring child of God must ...

- ▶ Repent and pray for forgiveness. 1 John 1:7-9

▶ Christians must “*be faithful unto death*”

- ▶ Revelation 2:10