The Resurrection Driven Life

Greg Kline · 1 Corinthians 15:3–4

INTRODUCTION

- Paul makes a very strong point in this chapter about something that, as basic and fundamental to our faith as it is, I find that we might under sell the value, the importance, and the emphasis that should be given.
- But can I suggest to you this morning, if that is the beginning, middle, and end of what we share with people, with what we share within ourselves and motivate ourselves with, we are wrong.

1 The Resurrection Is of First Importance

1 Corinthians 15:3–4; Acts 2:22–24; 1 Corinthians 15:14–17

- Because if the story ends with Christ's death, we are in the same predicament we were to start. Christ's resurrection holds the key.
- And so I want to make an obvious point to begin this morning's lesson that the resurrection is of first importance.
- So the empty tomb is of just as much importance, if not more, than his very death.
- God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it.
- And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins.
- Without it, the apostles' teaching is worthless. Without it, the Holy Bible that we read is nothing.

2 Have You Considered Your Resurrection?

1 Corinthians 15:45–57; Philippians 3:12–14; 2 Timothy 4:6–8

- Have you ever considered that part of Christ's resurrection and part of the great plan of God is that because of that, we need to consider our own resurrection.
- We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed. In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet.
- What is the victory? A resurrection of a new body. We can take on the form of the man of heaven.
- But he has an unwavering faith, an unwavering hope, an unwavering expectation that he will and must change to inherit the kingdom of God.
- He had confidence because he was a Christian and he understood what the power of the resurrection was.
- Who are you investing in? The perishable body, or are you living with the imperishable eternity with God in your heart?

3 A Resurrection Driven Life

Galatians 2:20; Colossians 3:1–4; Romans 6:4–9

- I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me.

- If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above. Where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.
- But I'll tell you what's really difficult, what's really hard is putting on those new things, living for the imperishable body.
- We were buried, therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that just as Christ was raised from the dead, by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.
- For if we have been united with him in a death like this, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.
- And until someone presents another way that you can come into the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ, baptism is what you must do.

THE CHALLENGE

Do you have the faith to follow? Do you have the faith to be raised and live a resurrection driven life?

MY NOTES