

One of the essential truths and hope for the believer is our transformation, either by the rapture of the church or by the way of the grave. Our foundation for this hope is displayed in the work of Christ. He has conquered death, hell and the grave. Because of this fact all who place their faith in Christ's work of salvation are promised eternal life. Paul the apostle addresses this reality most clearly in his letter to the Corinthian church.

Please read 1 Corinthians 15:1-19

1. What is the key emphasis and argument Paul introduces in these verses? What is the primary basis for authenticating his argument for the resurrection of Christ? How could we use this Scripture to confront those who believe there is no such thing as a person being raised from the dead? How central is the resurrection of Christ in relation to the gospel presentation? (Acts 3:11-16; 4:8-12)

Please read 1 Corinthians 15:20-34

2. According to verses 20-26, what are the stages of God's resurrection program? What warnings are given in this section of Scripture and why are those cautions given? How do these warnings relate to us in our culture?

Please read 1 Corinthians 15:35-49

3. What is the key argument of this section of Scripture? Why is the natural body not fit for the eternal state? What do the references to the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Adam mean? Who is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Adam and what has he done to pave the way for our eternal state? What comfort and certainty do these verses give you?

Please read 1 Corinthians 15:50-58

4. What are the two aspects of mystery that Paul affirms? What change is anticipated? Why must this change take place?
5. Paul uses two OT quotes to substantiate the victory we have in Christ. These quotes are from Isa. 25:8 and Hosea 13:14. How do these quotes strengthen the argument?
6. Paul concludes this entire chapter about the truth of the resurrection with a note of thanksgiving. How is our victory over eternal death achieved? When we understand this truth what is the outworking within our lives? How does understanding this truth effect our daily living?