

## **ORDER OF RESURRECTION, CHRIST THE FIRST FRUITS**

We are currently studying a Sunday series of doctrines of the Resurrection from 1 Cor.15:1-58. Today we are studying the third of six sections in this series, entitled, **Preach the Order of Resurrection.**

(1 Cor.15:1-11)	Preach Gospel of Grace Salvation
(1 Cor.15:12-19)	Preach the Resurrection
<b>(1 Cor.15:20-28)</b>	<b>Preach the Order of the Resurrection</b>
(1 Cor.15:29-34)	Preach the Victory of Resurrection
(1 Cor.15:35-49)	Preach the Resurrection Body
(1 Cor.15:50-58)	Preach the Mystery of the Rapture

We will divide the third section into two studies: (1 Cor.15:20-23) and (1 Cor.15:24-28).

- (1 Cor.15:20-23) Christ the First fruits of Resurrection
- (1 Cor.15:24-28) Christ's Return will be the End of All Things.

We will examine (1 Cor.15:20-23) by the following three homiletic points.

- (1 Cor.15:20) Christ the First fruits of Those Asleep (Church Age Believers, 1 Cor.15:51)
- (1 Cor.15:21-22) Christ the First fruits of Dead
- **(1 Cor.15:23) Christ the First fruits of the Order of Resurrection**

A key doctrinal principle established by Paul in 1st Corinthians Ch.15 is:

**“the resurrection of Jesus Christ and the resurrection of believers are inseparable truths.”**

Jesus said to Martha at the funeral of her brother in (John 11:25-26) **“I am the resurrection and the life;** he who believes in Me will live even if he dies, and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?”

**This lesson will study five aspects of Christ the First Fruits of Order of Resurrection.**

### **1. The Resurrection of Jesus Christ is called the First Fruit of the resurrection as He was raised on the Jewish messianic holiday of First Fruits (Lev.23:9-22; John 19:42-20:1; Rom.8:23; Eph.1:13-14).**

(1 Pet.1:3-5) Born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead; inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you.

(Rev.1:18; 9:1; 20:1-3) Because of His resurrection, Jesus Christ holds the keys of death and of Hades and of bottomless pit (Eschatology).

### **2. The resurrection of all believers is called the First Resurrection and the Resurrection of life (Dan.12:2; John 5:28-29; Acts 24:15; 1 Cor.15:20-23).**

- (Dan.12:2) Resurrection of everlasting life
- (John 5:28-29) Resurrection of life
- (Acts 24:15) Resurrection of the righteous
- (1 Cor.15:23) Resurrection of Jesus Christ is the First fruits

### 3. There is a dispensational order of the First Resurrection (1 Cor.15:20-23).

- 1<sup>st</sup> The resurrection of Jesus Christ is the First fruits (1 Cor.15:20-23; Col.1:18; Rev.1:5; Acts 26:23).
- 2<sup>nd</sup> The resurrection of church age believers will occur at **the Rapture**. (1 Cor.15:51-58; 1 Thess.1:10; 4:13-18).
- 3<sup>rd</sup> The resurrection of Jewish age believers at end of Tribulation. (John 5:28-29; 6:40; 11:24-26; Dan.12:2, 13).
- 4<sup>th</sup> The resurrection of Millennial believers. (1 Cor.15:24-28; Rev.20:4-6; 1 Cor.15:23-24).

All believers receive their resurrection bodies at the close of their dispensation following the order of the First Resurrection (1 Cor.15:20-23).

### 4. The resurrection of all unbelievers is called the Second Resurrection and the Resurrection of Judgment.

It will occur at the Great White Throne Judgment (John 5:29; Dan.12:2; Acts 24:15; Rev.20:10-15)

- (Dan.12:2b) “But others to disgrace and everlasting contempt.”
- (Acts 24:15b) “Resurrection of the wicked.”
- (John 5:29b) “Resurrection of Judgment.”
- (Rev.20:15) “And if anyone’s name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.”

### 5. All church age believers will receive their resurrection bodies at the Rapture (1Thess.4:13-18); (1 Cor.15:51-58).

The Rapture will occur with **the Last Trumpet** in the order of the First Resurrection of believers. (1 Thess. 4:16-17; 1 Cor.15:51-52).

The believer’s **resurrection body** is a building from God, eternal in heaven, made especially for eternal life in the New Heaven and New Earth (2 Cor.5:1; Rev.21-22).

The question to answer for the 2017 Easter is - **“If Christ has not been raised, then what?”**

- “Then your faith is worthless.” (1 Cor.15:17)
- “Then you are still in your sins.” (1 Cor.15:17)
- “Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished.” (1 Cor.15:18)
- “Then we are of all men most to be pitied.” (1 Cor.15:19)

### **The GOOD NEWS of the Gospel of Grace Salvation:**

**(1Cor.15:3-4)**

“For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, **that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures.**”  
(Rom.1:16; Eph.2:8-9)