

1Corinthians 15:12-34

MONDAY: Read 1Corinthians 15

Which is the most interesting subject Paul discusses in the whole chapter? Why? *Pray that you (& we) learn to depend on the Spirit for understanding and application of God's truths to change our lives.*

TUESDAY: Read 1Corinthians 15:12-34

How do verses 2-9 lay the foundation for Paul's correction about resurrection from the dead in this section? Which truths of our salvation are dependent upon Christ's resurrection? What happens after Christ returns? *Pray that the Spirit teaches you all about the truths of your conversion & salvation.*

WEDNESDAY: Read 1Corinthians 15:12-19

Paul lists at least 5 different lies generated from proclaiming that there is no resurrection (for believers). Can you name them? Which of these lies is the most dangerous to you? How/why did some Corinthian Christians deny the resurrection? *Ask the Spirit to help you recognize any lies you may be believing about Christ, His salvation & His Return.*

THURSDAY: Read 1Corinthians 15:20-28

Why is Christ the first of the "resurrection harvest?" To whom did we "belong" before rebirth of God's Spirit? Compare what Jesus says in John 11:23-26? To what event do verses 24-26 refer immediately following Christ's return and our resurrection? *Spend some time pondering the wonder of what our God has done to embrace us in His life and love for eternity...starting now!*

FRIDAY: Read 1Corinthians 15:23-28; Luke 17:20-21

In verse 23, Paul indicates the timeframe of Christ's reign. What is the beginning point? What event signals the end of His earthly reign? Explain how/where the risen Christ is reigning now? In what way is Christ humbling His enemies under His feet? *Pray that you (we) learn to trust Spirit to interpret the future events of God's Kingdom.*

SATURDAY: Read 1Corinthians 15:29-34

Do you think Paul is affirming *baptism for the dead*, or simply challenging their inconsistent beliefs? Which piece of Paul's advice given in this section do you think is most important? Why? *Ask the Spirit to answer the questions you still have – and be prepared to take notes!*

1CORINTHIANS 15:12-34 (NLT)

12) But tell me this—since we preach that Christ rose from the dead, why are some of you saying there will be no resurrection of the dead? **13)** For if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised either. **14)** And if Christ has not been raised, then all our preaching is useless, and your faith is useless. **15)** And we apostles would all be lying about God—for we have said that God raised Christ from the grave. But that can't be true if there is no resurrection of the dead. **16)** And if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised. **17)** And if Christ has not been raised, then your faith is useless and you are still guilty of your sins. **18)** In that case, all who have died believing in Christ are lost! **19)** And if our hope in Christ is only for this life, we are more to be pitied than anyone in the world.

20) But in fact, Christ has been raised from the dead. He is the first of a great harvest of all who have died.

21) So you see, just as death came into the world through a man, now the resurrection from the dead has begun through another man. **22)** Just as everyone dies because we all belong to Adam, everyone who belongs to Christ will be given new life. **23)** But there is an order to this resurrection: Christ was raised as the first of the harvest; then all who belong to Christ will be raised when he comes back.

24) After that the end will come, when he will turn the Kingdom over to God the Father, having destroyed every ruler and authority and power. **25)** For Christ must reign until he humbles all his enemies beneath his feet. **26)** And the last enemy to be destroyed is death. **27)** For the Scriptures say, “God has put all things under his authority.” (Of course, when it says “all things are under his authority,” that does not include God himself, who gave Christ his authority.) **28)** Then, when all things are under his authority, the Son will put himself under God's authority, so that God, who gave his Son authority over all things, will be utterly supreme over everything everywhere.

29) If the dead will not be raised, what point is there in people being baptized for those who are dead? Why do it unless the dead will someday rise again?

30) And why should we ourselves risk our lives hour by hour? **31)** For I swear, dear brothers and sisters, that I face death daily. This is as certain as my pride in what Christ Jesus our Lord has done in you. **32)** And what value was there in fighting wild beasts—those people of Ephesus—if there will be no resurrection from the dead? And if there is no resurrection, “Let's feast and drink, for tomorrow we die!” **33)** Don't be fooled by those who say such things, for “bad company corrupts good character.” **34)** Think carefully about what is right, and stop sinning. For to your shame I say that some of you don't know God at all.