

References and/or Scripture Quoted
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Our Beliefs

That Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit was born of the Virgin Mary, and is completely God and completely man. He lived a sinless life and died for our sins. He rose from the dead, ascended into heaven and is now our Advocate. (I Cor. 15: 3-4)

That the Bible is the inspired and inerrant Word of God and we hold it as the final authority on all matters. (II Timothy 3: 16-17)

That there is one God, the Creator of all things, existing in three persons: The Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit. (Gen. 1:1 & Matt. 28:19)

That man was created in the image of God, but he sinned which resulted not only in physical death, but also in spiritual death. All human beings are born with a sinful nature and can only be made whole through the love & grace of God through Jesus Christ. (Gen. 1:27 & Romans 6:23)

That salvation comes through faith in Jesus Christ alone. All who believe in Him are justified and promised eternal life through His shed blood. (John 14:6)

That the ordinances of the church as given by our Lord are Baptism and The Lord's Supper. (Acts 2:38 & Matt. 26:26-29)

That the Lord commissioned the church to evangelize and make disciples of all nations. (Matt. 28:16-20)

That Christ is coming for His church and He will visibly return to establish His Kingdom on the earth. (Matt: 24:30)

Scripture References

Hebrews 4:14-16

¹⁴Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. ¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as *we are, yet* without sin. ¹⁶Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Philippians 4:1-9

Think of Excellence

⁴Therefore, my beloved brethren ^[a]whom I long *to see*, my joy and crown, in this way stand firm in the Lord, my beloved.

²I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to ^[b]live in harmony in the Lord. ³Indeed, true companion, I ask you also to help these women who have shared my struggle in *the cause of the gospel*, together with Clement also and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life.

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice! ⁵Let your gentle *spirit* be known to all men. The Lord is ^[c]near. ⁶Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all ^[d]comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is ^[e]lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, ^[f]dwell on these things. ⁹The things you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

Footnotes:

- a. Philippians 4:1 Lit *and longed for*
- b. Philippians 4:2 Or *be of the same mind*
- c. Philippians 4:5 Or *at hand*
- d. Philippians 4:7 Lit *mind*
- e. Philippians 4:8 Or *lovable and gracious*
- f. Philippians 4:8 Lit *ponder these things*

Hebrews 12:1-2

Jesus, the Example

¹²Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ²^[a]fixing our eyes on Jesus, the ^[b]author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Footnotes:

- a. Hebrews 12:2 Lit *looking to*
- b. Hebrews 12:2 Or *leader*

1 Corinthians 15

The Fact of Christ's Resurrection

¹⁵Now I make known to you, brethren, the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand, ²by which also you are saved, if you hold fast ^[a]the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain.

³For I delivered to you ^[b]as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, ⁴and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, ⁵and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶After that He appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of

whom remain until now, but some have fallen asleep; ⁷ then He appeared to ^[c]James, then to all the apostles; ⁸ and last of all, as ^[d]to one untimely born, He appeared to me also. ⁹ For I am the least of the apostles, ^[e]and not fit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰ But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me did not prove vain; but I labored even more than all of them, yet not I, but the grace of God with me. ¹¹ Whether then *it was* I or they, so we preach and so you believed. ¹² Now if Christ is preached, that He has been raised from the dead, how do some among you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³ But if there is no resurrection of the dead, not even Christ has been raised; ¹⁴ and if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is vain, your faith also is vain. ¹⁵ Moreover we are even found *to be* false witnesses of God, because we testified ^[f]against God that He raised ^[g]Christ, whom He did not raise, if in fact the dead are not raised. ¹⁶ For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised; ¹⁷ and if Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins. ¹⁸ Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. ¹⁹ If we have hoped in Christ in this life only, we are of all men most to be pitied.

The Order of Resurrection

²⁰ But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who are asleep. ²¹ For since by a man *came* death, by a man also *came* the resurrection of the dead. ²² For as in Adam all die, so also in ^[h]Christ all will be made alive. ²³ But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, after that those who are Christ's at His coming, ²⁴ then *comes* the end, when He hands over the kingdom to the God and Father, when He has abolished all rule and all authority and power. ²⁵ For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet. ²⁶ The last enemy that will be abolished is death. ²⁷ For HE HAS PUT ALL THINGS IN SUBJECTION UNDER HIS FEET. But when He says, "All things are put in subjection," it is evident that He is excepted who put all things in subjection to Him. ²⁸ When all things are subjected to Him, then the Son Himself also will be subjected to the One who subjected all things to Him, so that God may be all in all. ²⁹ Otherwise, what will those do who are baptized for the dead? If the dead are not raised at all, why then are they baptized for them? ³⁰ Why are we also in danger every hour? ³¹ I affirm, brethren, by the boasting in you which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily. ³² If ^[i]from human motives I fought with wild beasts at Ephesus, what does it profit me? If the dead are not raised, LET US EAT AND DRINK, FOR TOMORROW WE DIE. ³³ Do not be deceived: "Bad company corrupts good morals." ³⁴ Become sober-minded ^[j]as you ought, and stop sinning; for some have no knowledge of God. I speak *this* to your shame. ³⁵ But someone will say, "How are the dead raised? And with what kind of body do they come?" ³⁶ You fool! That which you sow does not come to life unless it dies; ³⁷ and that which you sow, you do not sow the body which is to be, but a bare grain, perhaps of wheat or of ^[k]something else. ³⁸ But God gives it a body just as He wished, and to each of the seeds a body of its own. ³⁹ All flesh is not the same flesh, but there is one *flesh* of men, and another flesh of beasts, and another flesh of birds, and another of fish. ⁴⁰ There are also heavenly bodies and earthly bodies, but the glory of the heavenly is one, and the *glory* of the earthly is another. ⁴¹ There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for star differs from star in glory. ⁴² So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown ^[l]a perishable *body*, it is raised ^[m]an imperishable *body*; ⁴³ it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; ⁴⁴ it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual *body*. ⁴⁵ So also it is written, "The first MAN, Adam,

BECAME A LIVING SOUL.” The last Adam *became* a life-giving spirit. ⁴⁶ However, the spiritual is not first, but the natural; then the spiritual. ⁴⁷ The first man is from the earth, ^[n] earthy; the second man is from heaven. ⁴⁸ As is the earthy, so also are those who are earthy; and as is the heavenly, so also are those who are heavenly. ⁴⁹ Just as we have borne the image of the earthy, ^[o] we will also bear the image of the heavenly.

The Mystery of Resurrection

⁵⁰ Now I say this, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does ^[p] the perishable inherit ^[q] the imperishable. ⁵¹ Behold, I tell you a mystery; we will not all sleep, but we will all be changed, ⁵² in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised ^[r] imperishable, and we will be changed. ⁵³ For this ^[s] perishable must put on ^[t] the imperishable, and this mortal must put on immortality. ⁵⁴ But when this ^[u] perishable will have put on ^[v] the imperishable, and this mortal will have put on immortality, then will come about the saying that is written, “DEATH IS SWALLOWED UP in victory. ⁵⁵ O DEATH, WHERE IS YOUR VICTORY? O DEATH, WHERE IS YOUR STING?” ⁵⁶ The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law; ⁵⁷ but thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁵⁸ Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord.

Footnotes:

- a. 1 Corinthians 15:2 Lit *to what word I*
- b. 1 Corinthians 15:3 Lit *among the first*
- c. 1 Corinthians 15:7 Or *Jacob*
- d. 1 Corinthians 15:8 Lit *to an untimely birth*
- e. 1 Corinthians 15:9 Lit *who am*
- f. 1 Corinthians 15:15 Or *concerning*
- g. 1 Corinthians 15:15 I.e. the Messiah
- h. 1 Corinthians 15:22 I.e. the Messiah
- i. 1 Corinthians 15:32 Lit *according to man*
- j. 1 Corinthians 15:34 Lit *righteously*
- k. 1 Corinthians 15:37 Lit *some of the rest*
- l. 1 Corinthians 15:42 Lit *in corruption*
- m. 1 Corinthians 15:42 Lit *in incorruption*
- n. 1 Corinthians 15:47 Lit *made of dust*
- o. 1 Corinthians 15:49 Two early mss read *let us also*
- p. 1 Corinthians 15:50 Lit *corruption*
- q. 1 Corinthians 15:50 Lit *incorruption*
- r. 1 Corinthians 15:52 Lit *incorruptible*
- s. 1 Corinthians 15:53 Lit *corruptible*
- t. 1 Corinthians 15:53 Lit *incorruption*
- u. 1 Corinthians 15:54 V 53, note 1
- v. 1 Corinthians 15:54 V 53, note 2

2 Corinthians 5

The Temporal and Eternal

⁵ For we know that if ^[a]the earthly tent which is our house is torn down, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. ² For indeed in this *house* we groan, longing to be clothed with our dwelling from heaven, ³ inasmuch as we, having put it on, will not be found naked. ⁴ For indeed while we are in this tent, we groan, being burdened, because we do not want to be unclothed but to be clothed, so that what is mortal will be swallowed up by life. ⁵ Now He who prepared us for this very purpose is God, who gave to us the Spirit as a ^[b]pledge.

⁶ Therefore, being always of good courage, and knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord— ⁷ for we walk by faith, not by ^[c]sight— ⁸ we are of good courage, I say, and prefer rather to be absent from the body and to be at home with the Lord. ⁹ Therefore we also have as our ambition, whether at home or absent, to be pleasing to Him. ¹⁰ For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for ^[d]his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

¹¹ Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade men, but we are made manifest to God; and I hope that we are made manifest also in your consciences. ¹² We are not again commending ourselves to you but *are* giving you an occasion to be proud of us, so that you will have *an answer* for those who take pride in appearance and not in heart.

¹³ For if we ^[e]are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are of sound mind, it is for you.

¹⁴ For the love of Christ controls us, having concluded this, that one died for all, therefore all died; ¹⁵ and He died for all, so that they who live might no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died and rose again on their behalf.

¹⁶ Therefore from now on we recognize no one ^[f]according to the flesh; even though we have known Christ ^[g]according to the flesh, yet now we know *Him in this way* no longer.

¹⁷ Therefore if anyone is in Christ, ^[h]*he is* a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come. ¹⁸ Now all *these* things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation, ¹⁹ namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and ^[i]He has ^[i]committed to us the word of reconciliation.

²⁰ Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹ He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

Footnotes:

- a. 2 Corinthians 5:1 Lit *our earthly house of the tent*
- b. 2 Corinthians 5:5 Or *down payment*
- c. 2 Corinthians 5:7 Or *appearance*
- d. 2 Corinthians 5:10 Lit *the things through the body*
- e. 2 Corinthians 5:13 Lit *were*
- f. 2 Corinthians 5:16 I.e. by what he is in the flesh
- g. 2 Corinthians 5:16 I.e. by what he is in the flesh
- h. 2 Corinthians 5:17 Or *there is a new creation*
- i. 2 Corinthians 5:19 Lit *having*
- j. 2 Corinthians 5:19 Lit *placed in us*

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