

“Of First Importance” I Corinthians 15:18

In these verses we discover four facts surrounding the resurrection and four responses we are called upon to make. The Apostle announces these facts as those he, himself, had received and was now delivering to the church “as of first importance.” That is, the most important thing you will ever learn is the truth and implications of Christ’s resurrection.

I. FOUR FACTS SURROUNDING the resurrection (vv. 3-8)

A. Christ DIED (v. 3b)

1. For our sins (v. 3b)
2. To fulfill scripture (v. 3d)

B. Christ was BURIED (v. 4a)

1. By two Jewish religious leaders (John 19:38-40)
2. In a garden tomb near Jerusalem (John 19:41)

C. Christ was RAISED (v. 4b)

1. On the third day (Mt. 17:22-23)
2. According to the Scriptures (Psalm 16:10)

D. Christ APPEARED BODILY (vv. 5-8)

(six of ten post resurrection appearances)

II. FOUR RESPONSES to the resurrection (vv. 1-2)

A. We need to HEAR IT (v. 1a)

B. We need to RECEIVE IT (v. 1b)

C. We need to BE SAVED BY IT (v. 2a)

D. We need to STAND IN IT (v. 1c)

We need to faithfully PROCLAIM THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST (v. 11 “...so we preached and so you believed”).