

The Gospel Truth

1 Corinthians 15:1-19

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Take-Home Truth: The Gospel offers everything we need when validated by the resurrection.

MY RECEPTION OF THE GOSPEL SECURES MY PRESENT AND MY FUTURE STANDING WITH GOD.

Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, ²and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you— unless you believed in vain. 1 Corinthians 15:1-2 (English Standard Version)

I have declared to both Jews and Greeks that they must turn to God in repentance and have faith in our Lord Jesus. Acts 20:21 (New International Version)

- Repentance is a heartfelt sorrow for sin, a renouncing of it and a sincere commitment to forsake it and walk in obedience to Christ.
- Faith is deciding to depend on Jesus to save me from my sin.

THE “GOOD NEWS” OF THE GOSPEL NEVER CHANGES: CHRIST DIED FOR OUR SINS.

For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁴that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. 1 Corinthians 15:3-7 (ESV)

Three Tenets of the Gospel

- Christ died for our sins.

But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed. Isaiah 53:5 (NIV)

- Jesus' physical body really did die.
- Jesus rose from the dead.

THE GOSPEL MAKES PEOPLE WORTHY WHO ARE NOT WORTHY.

Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

1 Corinthians 15:8-11 (ESV)

For all have sinned . . . being justified as a gift by His grace . . .

Roman 3:23a, 24a (New American Standard Bible)

God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. 2 Corinthians 5:21 (NIV)

THE RESURRECTION VALIDATES THE GOSPEL.

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁴And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. ¹⁵We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. ¹⁶For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁷And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. ¹⁹If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied.

1 Corinthians 15:12-19 (ESV)