

**Resurrection Sunday 2016**  
**1 Cor 15**

At SonRise we considered that we have received by faith the Gospel of Great Change:  
Resurrection – the power of God over death

Let's consider in more depth this Great Change in 1 Cor 15

v1-4           The Gospel according to the Scriptures...as easy as ABC, as simple as 123

1. Jesus Christ died for our sins
2. Jesus Christ was buried
3. Jesus Christ rose again on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day

Jesus Christ is absolutely unique among men and religious leaders:  
Resurrection unto eternal life (Where is \_\_\_\_\_?)

v5-8           The Law says in Deut 19:15  
                  at the mouth of two witnesses, or at the mouth of three witnesses,  
                  shall the matter be established

The Scriptures say that there were on the order of 564 sightings (eyewitnesses)  
of the risen Lord Jesus Christ before He ascended to the right hand of the  
Father...Jesus' "last week" of ministry wasn't!!! (Acts 1:1-3)

Are there sufficient eyewitnesses to establish the truth of the resurrection  
of Jesus Christ?

The eyewitnesses include Saul of Tarsus (Acts 9, after Jesus ascended to the right  
hand of the Father), as he testified to Agrippa in Acts 26

v9-11          The appearance of the risen Lord to Saul of Tarsus and His calling of Saul to be  
                  His 12<sup>th</sup> apostle was "not fitting or proper" because of Saul's "works"

But God made a Great Change in Saul of Tarsus – newness of life by grace  
Grace (forgiveness because payment has been made) changes everything

As a result, the believers in Corinth heard the Gospel preached by Paul and  
believed in Jesus Christ, Whom they never saw  
They are fruit of the Lord's ministry in and thru Paul

Yet the Gospel of Grace and the Resurrection of Jesus Christ are challenged

v12 “If it is preached by eyewitnesses that Jesus Christ is risen from the dead, why do some of you say that there is no truth to the teaching of the resurrection of the dead?”

Did not one of the Apostles say the same thing?

John 20:19-29

Thomas, absent from the meeting, was not yet born-again

Therefore, who says “Nonsense!” to the teaching of the Resurrection?

Those who are not born-again of the Spirit of God

v13-19 A born-again eyewitness of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, under the inspiration of God the Holy Spirit (2 Tim 3:16-17), says that if there is no resurrection of the dead, then

1. Jesus Christ is not risen, the tomb is not empty, a conspiracy is hatched to cover the “truth”
2. the Apostles’ preaching (Apostle’s doctrine) is empty... no content, no substance, no truth
3. the faith of believers is empty... a fairy tale
4. the Apostles are false witnesses of God...false teachers
5. all believers of the Gospel are still dead in sin... not forgiven and still condemned, Grace has not satisfied Justice...no change
6. believers who have physically died already are in fact dead... separated from God for all eternity, without hope, not redeemed from eternal torment
7. believers in Jesus Christ, whose lives are governed by the Lord, are the most miserable and pathetic and pitiful and ridiculous of all men...the joke is on them, biggest fools on the planet

What is the next word?

v20

But Jesus Christ is certifiably risen from the dead!

He did bodily appear to over 500 eyewitnesses...not merely 2 or 3!

He did many infallible proofs that He is alive

He did appear to Paul on the road to Damascus...Paul was not dreaming

Jesus Christ truly did as He said in John 10:17-18

Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again. No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father.

Jesus Christ is risen...just as He raised from the dead:

1. the son of the widow of Zarephath (1 Kings 17)
2. the son of the Shunammite (2 Kings 4)
3. the widow of Nain's son (Luke 7)
4. Jairus' daughter (Luke 8)
5. Lazarus, Mary and Martha's brother (John 11)

Had Jesus Christ not risen from the dead, what kind of words are these of Jesus:

John 3:16

John 5:24 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

John 6:40 And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.

John 10:11 I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.

John 11:25-24 I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?

John 14:6

Are these words of the Son of God deceitful or powerful?

Had Jesus Christ not risen from the dead, what kind of words are these:

Job 19:25-26 For I know *that* my redeemer liveth, and *that* he shall stand at the latter *day* upon the earth: And *though* after my skin *worms* destroy this *body*, yet in my flesh shall I see God:

Ps 49:15 God will redeem my soul from the power of the grave: for he shall receive me.

Ps 16:9-10 my heart is glad, and my glory rejoiceth: my flesh also shall rest in hope. For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.

John 1:12

Eph 2:4-7 But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, by (grace ye are saved;) And hath raised *us* up together, and made *us* sit together in heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus: That in the ages to come he might show the exceeding riches of his grace in *his* kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.

2 Cor 4:14 Knowing that he which raised up the Lord Jesus shall raise up us also by Jesus, and shall present *us* with you

2 Cor 5:17 Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

Col 1:12-14 Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated *us* into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, *even* the forgiveness of sins:

Rom 10:9 if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

1 John 5:11-13

1 Thes 4:13-18

Are all these words of God deceitful or powerful?

If Jesus Christ did not rise from the dead, then God is not God  
But Jesus Christ is risen from the dead!  
We KNOW this...by faith  
Heb 11:1

The Holy Spirit thru Paul then teaches the resurrection of the dead more in depth

- v21-23 Death by one man (Adam), resurrection of the dead by one Man (2<sup>nd</sup> Adam)  
(why God became flesh, why the virgin birth)
- v24-28 Jesus will put all enemies under His feet, the last enemy being death
- v29-32 Death...dying to self daily...is a lifestyle of Jesus followers  
Gal 2:20  
Dead men have no rights
- v33-34 avoid false teachers that deny the Word of God (Gen 3:1)
- v35-37 evidence of resurrection in nature
- v38-41 the different “kinds” of bodies

v42-44 The resurrection of the dead: a Great Change

<u>sown in</u>	<u>raised in</u>
corruption	incorruption
dishonor	glory
weakness	power
natural body	spiritual body

v45-47	<u>1<sup>st</sup> Adam</u>	<u>2<sup>nd</sup>/Last Adam</u>
	made a living soul (breath of God)	made a quickening spirit (Spirit of God)
	natural	spiritual
	of the earth, earthy	the Lord from heaven

v48-49 We are as the 1<sup>st</sup> Adam...of his “kind” (absolute Creation fact)  
born living natural souls of the earth

And, by resurrection, we are as the 2<sup>nd</sup> Adam...of His “kind”!  
born-again of the Spirit of God

v50-54 a Great Change is required...accomplished only by the power of God

- resurrection of the dead
- a new body

2 Cor 5:1 For we know that if our earthly house of *this* tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

Then: Death is swallowed up in (Jesus Christ's) victory

Death is defeated now

Heb 2:14-15 Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage

But v25-28 is yet future...and we groan until then!

2 Cor 5:2 For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven:

Nonetheless, let the rejoicing begin!!!!

v55-57 Hosea 13:14 I will ransom them from the power of the grave; I will redeem them from death: O death, I will be thy plagues; O grave, I will be thy destruction: repentance shall be hid from mine eyes.

Eph 1:12 That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ.

The power of death is broken...by the power of God – the resurrection of the dead

v58

KNOWING death has no more power of over us...we are to be

- steadfast and unmovable in our faith
- working hard...profitably vs in vain/for nothing
  - at the Father's business: seeking and saving the lost
  - at the Lord's commands:
    - loving each other
    - occupying until He returns
    - watching until He returns
    - going to preach the Gospel
    - turning people from darkness to light
    - turning people from the power of Satan (death) unto God (life)
    - making disciples
    - investing in the eternal kingdom of God vs this life on earth

Phil 1:21 For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain

Let us sing with thanksgiving!