

“Resurrection of the Dead” (#02)
“Denial of the Resurrection of the Dead”

During the month of April, we will be studying a new series of lessons on the Resurrection of Dead taken from (1 Corinthians 15)

Paul is responding doctrinally to questions written by church leaders regarding problems associated with the resurrection of Jesus Christ (1 Cor.7:1, 25; 8:1; 12:1; 16:1, 12) “How do some of you say?” (1 Cor.15:12)

My NIV study Bible offers the following outline of 1st Corinthians, Ch.15.

(1 Cor.15:1-11)	Resurrection of Christ
(1 Cor.15:12-34)	Resurrection of Dead
(1 Cor.15:35-58)	Resurrection Body

Today’s lesson will outline Paul’s argument by four points of a lesson entitled, Denial of Resurrection of the Dead.

1. The problem with which the church was struggling wasn’t the resurrection of Jesus Christ nor the importance of His resurrection in the gospel of salvation, but the Resurrection of dead.

(1 Cor.15:5-11), “Whether then it was I or they, so we preached and so you believe. **Now if (1cc)** Christ I preached (kerusso / p.p.ind.3ps,) that He has been raised (egeiro / perf.p.ind.3ps) from the dead, **how do some among you say that there is no resurrection of the dead?**” (1 Cor.15:11-12)

Six post-resurrection appearance of Jesus are mentioned **plus** those still living witnesses, 25 years after the historical resurrection of Jesus Christ, **plus** the OT Scriptures fulfilled by Jesus Christ. They were all on the same page regarding the importance of the resurrection of Jesus Christ to the resurrection of the dead – **“Whether it was I or they, so we preached and so you believed.”**

PROBLEM: Now some of the Corinthian believers were saying that there was no need for a doctrine of the resurrection since the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

2. In (1 Cor.15:12-34), Paul makes his argument by using a Greek debater’s technique called the “A Priori” argument.

The “A Priori” argument begins with a general thesis and gives specific points of argument to prove or disprove the thesis.

The general thesis is stated in (1 Cor.15:12) and the specific points are given in (1 Cor.15:13-32) with a conclusion in (1 Cor.15:33-34).

Paul used this form of argument to show the danger of a false assumption of basic doctrines. It has a domino effect upon other doctrines. Paul will take their false assumption and discuss it logically to reveal the domino effect (1 Cor.1:22-25).

3. Paul also used the first class Greek conditional clause (1CC) to show that if the protasis (if) is assumed true than the apodosis (then) has to also be assumed true.

Paul used the first class conditional clause in the following verses.

NOTE: Remember that in 1CC when the (protasis/ if) is false than the (apodosis/ then) is also false.

(1 Cor.15:13) (if) _____ (then) _____

(1 Cor.15:14) (if) _____ (then) _____
(then) _____

(1 Cor.15:15) (if) _____ (then) _____

(1 Cor.15:16) (if) _____ (then) _____

(1 Cor.15:17-18) (if) _____ (then) _____
(then) _____
(then) _____

(1 Cor.15:19) (if) _____ (then) _____

Here is Paul's doctrinal conclusion: The resurrection of the dead is based on the resurrection of Jesus Christ. These two doctrines are inseparable.

4. We will look at Paul's eight concluding arguments in the light of this doctrinal truth.

- Christ did rise from the dead (1 Cor.15:12; 13, 16).
- Our preaching of the resurrection of Christ and of the dead is not in vain. (1 Cor.15:14)
- Our faith in these two doctrines is not in vain (1 Cor.15:14).
- We are not false witnesses of God (1 Cor.15:15).
- Our faith in these doctrines is not worthless (1 Cor.15:17).
- We are no longer in the sins (1 Cor.15:17).
- CABs who have died in Christ have not perished, but have eternal life (1 Cor.15:18).
- We are not the most pitied among mankind because we have the hope of the resurrection (1 Cor.15:19).

(1 Thess.4:13) "But we do not you to be informed, brethren, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve, as do the rest who have **no hope**."

(1 Cor.15:51-52) "Behold, I tell you a mystery; we shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed. In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed."