**1 Corinthians 15**

*Paul deals with the false view some had regarding the resurrection, by noting Christ’s resurrection, and the hope it affords us. He discusses the nature of the resurrected body, and emphasizes the hope that the resurrection gives to all Christians. (Synopsis by Stan Cox)*

1. Inquiry from Corinthians **(7:1-16:4)** – *“Now concerning the things of which you wrote to me:”* **(7:1)**.
   1. Concerning the Resurrection **(15:1-58)**.
      1. Resurrection witnessed, preached, and believed **(15:1-11)**.
         1. The gospel and the Corinthians **(vv. 1-2).**
            1. Paul preached the gospel to them – they received it **(v. 1).**
            2. By it they will be saved if they hold it fast **(v. 2).**
         2. The gospel concisely reviewed **(vv. 3-11).**
            1. Christ died for mankind’s sins **(v. 3).**
            2. He was buried, and rose on the third day **(v. 4).**
            3. He was seen by many – eyewitnesses **(vv. 5-7).**
            4. Lastly, He was seen by Paul, who, by God’s grace proclaimed the gospel **(vv. 8-10).**
            5. The Corinthians believed the gospel message **(v. 11).**
      2. Logical Consequences if Resurrection is erroneous **(15:12-19)**.
         1. Christ is not risen **(vv. 12-13).**
         2. The apostolic preaching is empty, as is the Corinthians’ faith **(v. 14).**
         3. The apostles are false witnesses **(vv. 15-16).**
         4. They are still in their sins **(v. 17).**
         5. The Christians who have died have perished – without hope **(v. 18).**
         6. Christians are the most pitiable people on earth **(v. 19).**
      3. Importance of Resurrection 1: Last Enemy Destroyed **(15:20-28)**.
         1. Christ is the *“firstfruits”* of the resurrection **(v. 20).**
         2. The correlation between Adam’s death, and Christ’s resurrection **(vv. 21-22).**
         3. When will the resurrection occur **(vv. 23-28)?**
            1. At Christ’s (second) coming **(v. 23).**
            2. At the end, when Christ delivers the kingdom to God **(vv. 24-28).**
      4. Logical Way of living if Resurrection is erroneous **(15:29-34)**.
         1. What is the reason for baptism if the dead do not rise **(v. 29)?**
         2. Why do the apostles suffer persecution if there is no hope of the resurrection **(vv. 30-32a)?**
         3. If there is no resurrection, there is no reason to live righteously **(v. 32b).**
         4. However, there is a resurrection, so beware of evil influence, and live righteously **(vv. 33-34).**
      5. Nature of Resurrection **(15:35-49)**.
         1. *“With what body do they come”* **(vv. 35-49)?**
            1. A different body than the one that was sown **(vv. 35-38).**
            2. There are different types of bodies in the world **(vv. 39-41).**
            3. The resurrected body will be different than the physical body **(vv. 42-49).**

Sown 🡪 Raised: corruption 🡪 incorruption; dishonor 🡪 glory; weakness 🡪 power **(vv. 42-43).**

Natural 🡪 Spiritual – Just as the first Adam, and the last Adam **(vv. 44-45).**

Natural comes before the spiritual **(v. 46).**

We will bear the image of the heavenly Man (last Adam), just as we have borne the image of the earthly man (first Adam) **(vv. 47-49).**

* + 1. Importance of Resurrection 2: Incorruptible inheriting kingdom; Victory over death **(15:50-58)**.
       1. The first body cannot inherit the kingdom of God **(v. 50).**
       2. *“How are the dead raised up”* **(vv. 51-52)?**
          1. Not all will die – therefore, not all will be raised **(v. 51).**
          2. At the trumpet, those alive will be changed, and the dead will be raised **(v. 52).**
       3. The corruptible, mortal man must put on incorruption and immortality, and victory over death will be enjoyed through Christ **(vv. 53-57).**
       4. Therefore, remain faithful – steadfast, immovable, and abounding – for it is not in vain – for there is a resurrection **(v. 58).**

**Questions**

1. When the gospel was preached, what was the general message **(vv. 1-11)?**
2. What are some consequences to there not being a resurrection?
3. What kind of body will be raised? Why is this necessary **(vv. 35-58)?**

**Another Question to Consider**

**1 Corinthians 15:29** – Does this passage support the Mormon practice of baptizing for the dead? (Vicarious Baptism) If not, why not? Also, what might be a good explanation of this passage?