

BECAUSE HE LIVES!

I Corinthians 15

- I. The **PROOF** of the Resurrection.
- II. The **PURPOSE** of the Resurrection.
- III. The **POWER** of the Resurrection.

I. The **PROOF** of the Resurrection:

He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep.

I Cor. 15:5-6

1. The **'stolen body'** theory.

And when they had assembled with the elders and consulted together, they gave a large sum of money to the soldiers, and said, "You are to say, 'His disciples came by night and stole Him away while we were asleep.' and this story was widely spread among the Jews and is to this day.

Matt 28:12

(Would you die for a lie?)

2. The **'swoon'** theory. **(Simply unbelievable!!)**

3. The **'first witness'** credibility. **(A myth poorly planned!)**

To these He also presented Himself alive after His suffering, by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over a period of forty days and speaking of the things concerning the kingdom of God.

Acts 1:3

“There exists such overwhelming evidence that no intelligent jury in the world could fail to bring a verdict that the resurrection account is true.”

*-Lord Darling
(former Chief Justice of Supreme Court of England)*

“I was unable to explain away an event in history...the resurrection of Christ. I came to the conclusion that the resurrection of Jesus was the most wicked and heartless hoax every sprung upon mankind or it is the most important fact in history.”

*-Josh McDowell
(author and apologist: “Why he became a Christian?”)*

II. The PURPOSE of the Resurrection:

And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished.

I Cor. 15:17-18

“Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?”... But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

I Cor. 15: 55, 57

III. The POWER of the Resurrection:

1. A people transformed

If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

Rom. 10:9

The large crowd of the Jews then learned that He was there; and they came, not for Jesus' sake only, but that they might also see Lazarus, whom He raised from the dead. John 12:9

2. A power transferred

If the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

Romans 8:11

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. DO YOU BELIEVE THIS?"

John 11:25