

INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: **1Corinthians 15:1-11**.
- B. So many things to preach from the Scriptures, how does one choose? Paul had many things to say to the Corinthians, yet he passed along this teaching as of first importance.
- C. By way of needed review, let us look at the core of our faith, the DBR of X.

I. JESUS DIED FOR OUR SINS (1Cor. 15:1-3).

- A. Jesus's death was not an accident, or a careless murder. It was a planned, predetermined scenario by God. Jesus voluntarily submitted Himself to that plan.
- B. Notice the following:
 - 1. There was a distinct purpose in Jesus coming to the earth (Jn. 12:27).
"Now My soul has become troubled; and what shall I say, 'Father, save Me from this hour'? But for this purpose I came to this hour."
 - 2. Jesus said that His death would draw all men unto Him (Jn. 12:30-31).
Jesus answered and said, "This voice has not come for My sake, but for your sakes. 'Now judgment is upon this world; now the ruler of this world shall be cast out.'"
 - 3. There were past signs given that this event would come to pass (Mt. 12:39-40).
But He answered and said to them, "An evil and adulterous generation craves for a sign; and yet no sign shall be given to it but the sign of Jonah the prophet; for just as JONAH WAS THREE DAYS AND THREE NIGHTS IN THE BELLY OF THE SEA MONSTER, so shall the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth."
 - 4. Jesus told the people that He would die and be raised again (Jn. 2:19, 21).
Jesus answered and said to them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." **21** But He was speaking of the temple of His body.
 - 5. When X tried to tell His apostles, they would not believe Him (Mt. 16:21).
From that time Jesus Christ began to show His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised up on the third day.
- C. One of the saddest religious doctrines that I know is a teaching that says the death of X was never intended by God, and was just an accident that caused God to alter His eternal plan to save man. Nothing could be farther from the truth!
- D. The OT prophets spoke of the death of the Messiah:
 - 1. Isaiah said that X would bear our iniquities (Isa. 53:11).
As a result of the anguish of His soul, He will see it and be satisfied; By His knowledge the Righteous One, My Servant, will justify the many, As He will bear their iniquities.
 - 2. Hosea foretold how the Messiah would be raised on the third day (Hos. 6:2).
"He will revive us after two days; He will raise us up on the third day That we may live before Him."
 - 3. Zechariah speaks of the only son that will be mourned for (Zech. 12:10).
"And I will pour out on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the Spirit of grace and of supplication, so that they will look on Me whom they have pierced; and they will mourn for Him, as one mourns for an only son, and they will weep bitterly over Him, like the bitter weeping over a first-born."
 - 4. In another reference Zechariah speaks of the Shepherd being struck (Zech. 13:7).
"Awake, O sword, against My Shepherd, And against the man, My Associate," Declares the LORD of hosts. "Strike the Shepherd that the sheep may be scattered; And I will turn My hand against the little ones."
- E. Jesus, in His earthly ministry spoke of how the OT foretold His death (Lk. 24:45-46).
Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and He said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and rise again from the dead the third day;..."
- F. Peter later wrote that it is by His stripes that we are healed (1Pet. 2:24).
and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed.

II. JESUS DIED AND WAS BURIED (1Cor. 15:4).

- A. Skeptics will sometimes argue that Jesus never really died, He just “swooned” on the cross.
- B. Given the facts of the gospel accounts, there is no way that Jesus could have swooned on the cross, revived in the tomb, and came forth on the third day:
 - 1. He had been up all night (no sleep).
 - 2. He had gone without food.
 - 3. He wore a thorny crown causing blood loss.
 - 4. He was nailed to the cross, causing blood loss.
 - 5. The gospel writers said He died.
 - 6. The Romans knew He had died (they knew when someone had died).
 - 7. The spear brought forth blood/water.
 - 8. Pilate was surprised He was dead.
 - 9. His legs were not broken because He was already dead.
 - 10. He was embalmed which meant it was impossible to free Himself (Jo. 11:44).
 - 11. He spent 3 days/nights in a waterless, airless tomb.
 - 12. And after all of that, overpowered the Roman guards stationed at the tomb.

It is a whole easier to believe Jesus died, than believe all of that!
- C. The apostles believed that He died (Ac. 2:23; 3:15; 5:30). Think about it, the apostles preached a resurrected X, and there is no way to preach the resurrection of X, without first believing that He died.

III. JESUS WAS RESURRECTED ON THE THIRD DAY (1Cor. 15:4).

- A. Every one of the gospels tell of a resurrected X.
- B. The apostles preached a resurrected X:
 - 1. Peter preached the resurrection in Ac. 2:24, 32-36; 3:15; 4:1-2.

(Ac 2:24) “And God raised Him up again, putting an end to the agony of death, since it was impossible for Him to be held in its power.

(Ac 2:32-36) “This Jesus God raised up again, to which we are all witnesses. “Therefore having been exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He has poured forth this which you both see and hear. “For it was not David who ascended into heaven, but he himself says: ‘THE LORD SAID TO MY LORD, “SIT AT MY RIGHT HAND, UNTIL I MAKE THINE ENEMIES A FOOTSTOOL FOR THY FEET.”’ “Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ-- this Jesus whom you crucified.”

(Ac 3:15) “but put to death the Prince of life, the one whom God raised from the dead, a fact to which we are witnesses.”

(Ac 4:1-2) And as they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple guard, and the Sadducees, came upon them, being greatly disturbed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead.
 - 2. Paul preached the resurrection (Ac. 17:18, 31-32; 26:23).

(Ac 17:18, 31-32) And also some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers were conversing with him. And some were saying, “What would this idle babbler wish to say?” Others, “He seems to be a proclaimer of strange deities,”-- because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection. **31** because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead.” Now when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some began to sneer, but others said, “We shall hear you again concerning this.”

(Ac 26:23) that the Christ was to suffer, and that by reason of His resurrection from the dead He should be the first to proclaim light both to the Jewish people and to the Gentiles.”

And in numerous occasions in his letters.
- C. Paul even goes so far as to say that without a belief in the resurrection, our faith is vain, the apostles’ testimony is false, and we are still in our sins (1Cor. 15:14-15, 17).

and if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is vain, your faith also is vain. Moreover, we are even found to be false witnesses of God, because we witnessed against God that He raised Christ, whom He did not raise, if in fact the dead are not raised. **17** and if Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins.

IV. JESUS APPEARED TO MANY AFTER HIS RESURRECTION (1Cor. 15:5-8).

- A. Jesus appeared to many people showing the creditability of the miracle of His resurrection.
- B. He appeared to:
 - 1. Mary Magdalene.
 - 2. The two men on the road to Emmaus.
 - 3. The Twelve.
 - 4. Thomas.
 - 5. Five hundred brethren at one time.
 - 6. Peter.
 - 7. Paul.

CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.

- A. The DBR of X is still the focal point of all history and especially Xianity (1Cor. 2:2).
- B. One of the reasons that baptism is such a great blessing is that when we are baptized, we get to share in this great event. As Jesus died, was buried, and then raised again, in baptism we die to self and sin, are buried in water, and rise to walk in newness of life (Rom. 6:3-4).

Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death?
4 Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.
- C. The testimony of the ages is that Jesus is the Son of God and that He died, was buried, and was raised again on the third day. Believe and obey that testimony!
- D. Plan of salvation for non-Xians; erring Xians.