



BEYOND THE GRAVE: NO RESURRECTION?

1 Cor. 15 selections

VSS. 1-2

Just coming out of instruction about the Lord's Supper, spiritual gifts, potential abuses of gifts, and orderly worship. Now, stay true to THE Gospel.

(See Gal. 1:6-9)

“The gospel I preached...”

Salvation by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone.



VSS. 3-8

Good news! Good news!

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ is central to the
Gospel.

Witnesses cited...



VSS. 12-20A

What's the confusion?

Greek philosophy – Everything physical is evil

Sadducees – Rejected the Resurrection

Indeed, 1 Cor. 15:33



IF NO RESURRECTION, THEN...

Christ has not been raised

Preaching Christ is useless

Faith in Christ is pointless

Witnesses and preachers are liars

We are all still in our sins

Those who have died are hopelessly lost

We have only a pitiful existence

*“But Christ has indeed
been raised from the
dead...”*

And we will rise



NOW, WHAT ABOUT THE BODY?

Vss. 35-38

An illustration from the field:

We plant kernels, not stalks

What follows is grand in comparison, because...God



Vss. 42-44

The frailty of the human body:

It is natural and perishable
It is sown in dishonor and weakness



Vss. 42-44

The splendor of the resurrected body:

It is spiritual and – as a result – imperishable

It is raised in glory and power

THE NECESSITY OF DEATH AND HOPE FOR THOSE IN CHRIST

Vss. 50-58

Recall John 14:2-3. See also Rev. 21:1-4

Our present body cannot inherit the Kingdom

Of necessity, all will be changed

(Dead raised imperishable; living swapped out)

DEATH will be swallowed up in victory (Rev. 20:14)



What a day that will be!!

“Death has been swallowed up in victory!”

“Where, O Death, is your victory?
Where, O Death, is your sting?”

But today is not that day, and so we fix our eyes on
Jesus, the Resurrected and Returning King



WHILE WE WAIT...

“Stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.”