

1 Corinthians 15:20-28

“Heavenly Hope: Why Jesus’ Resurrection Guarantees Ours!”

INTRO- The current crisis in the contemporary American church.

“To live is Christ *to die is gain.*” Do our lives demonstrate that we truly believe this?

Where is our ultimate citizenship? What is the believer’s (true) identity?

(Phil. 3:20-21; 1 Peter 2:11-12; Heb. 11:13, 13:14)

1 Cor.15:20-28 highlight 2 *Eternal Consequences of Christ’s Bodily Resurrection*

1) Jesus' Bodily Resurrection _____.

(1 Cor. 15:20-22, 26)

How has this "resurrection hope" recently helped Pat Menningen and Daniel and Alexandra Boldea to cope during this season of great heartache and loss?

For Further Reflection/Application: *We must be doers of God's Word and not merely hearers only.*

What are some reasons unbelievers do not want to die (or are afraid of dying)? What are some of the not so good reasons why believers are sometimes reluctant to go "home?" What are some valid reasons to be hard pressed between staying (on earth) or going (home to glory)? Spend some time this week thinking about the many implications of Philippians 1:21-26.

How can material blessings and creature comforts become ministry/life distractions? How do we know when they have become idols of the heart? Sometimes we experience "HDD." What is the biblical antidote?

One Pastor highlighting the Pilgrim's progress writes, "Christians 'look' for "things unseen" (2 Cor. 4:18, where the Greek verb "to look" suggests an intense, steady gaze). It sounds like a paradox: we look for something that cannot be seen. Glory awaits, and Christian pilgrims maintain a steady but determined discipline of facing forward. What lies ahead fills our vision and keeps us expectant. What awaits steady pilgrims surpasses expectation and defies explanation. 'Onward and upward! To Narnia and the North!' is a statement in C. S. Lewis' Narnia tale *The Horse and His Boy*. All pilgrims of the cross agree: onward and upward!

What are 7 Devastating Consequences of a Resurrection-less Gospel? See 1 Cor. 15:12-19. Last year's Easter sermon was on this passage.

Explain the relationship between resurrection faith and resurrection focus with resurrection HOPE!

Jesus died that His people might live forever! John 11:25f. Do you believe this?

The bodily resurrection of Christ personally guarantees that all **believers** will enjoy heavenly riches in glorified bodies- forever and ever- AMEN!

In what ways is Christ our only sure HOPE in life and in death?

Related Praise Songs: *Theology fuels Doxology! We dig deeply in order that we may go high in praise!*

Christ the Lord is Risen Today- Hymn
Christ Arose (Lo in the Grave He Lay)- Hymn
Christ Our Hope in Life and Death- Keith and Kristyn Getty
Arise, My Soul, Arise! Together for the Gospel Live
In Christ Alone- the Gettys.
Christ Our Glory- Sovereign Grace Music
See What a Morning- the Gettys
Hail the Day! Sovereign Grace Music
Was it a Morning Like This? Sandi Patty
Christ is Risen- Matt Maher
Jesus is Alive- City Alight
O Praise the Name of Jesus (Anástasis)-
Were You There When They Crucified My Lord? Jubilant Sykes
Glorious Day (Living He Loved Me)- Casting Crowns
Upon Him- Matt Redman and *Living Hope*- Phil Wickham

Related Scripture Passages

1 Cor. 15:1-58; 2:9-10; 2 Cor. 5:6-9; Phil. 1:21-26; Col. 3:1-2; Heb. 11:13, 13:14, 1 Pet. 2:11-12, Job 19:25-27

All related sermons can be downloaded for free at www.lakecountrybible.org