

IF CHRIST WAS NOT RAISED

1 CORINTHIANS 15:12-20 (MESSAGE VERSION)

PAUL: IF JESUS WAS NOT RESURRECTED

The Resurrection of the Dead

- Now, let me ask you something profound yet troubling. If you became believers because you trusted the proclamation that Christ is alive, risen from the dead, how can you let people say that there is no such thing as a resurrection? 13 If there's no resurrection, there's no living Christ. 14 And face it - if there's no resurrection for Christ, everything we've told you is smoke and mirrors, and everything you've staked your life on is smoke and mirrors.**

PAUL: IF JESUS WAS NOT RESURRECTED

The Resurrection of the Dead

- 15 Not only that, but we would be guilty of telling a string of barefaced lies about God, all these affidavits we passed on to you verifying that God raised up Christ - sheer fabrications, if there's no resurrection. 16 If corpses can't be raised, then Christ wasn't, because he was indeed dead. 17 And if Christ wasn't raised, then all you're doing is wandering about in the dark, as lost as ever.**

PAUL: IF JESUS WAS NOT RESURRECTED

The Resurrection of the Dead

- 18 It's even worse for those who died hoping in Christ and resurrection, because they're already in their graves. 19 If all we get out of Christ is a little inspiration for a few short years, we're a pretty sorry lot. 20 But the truth is that Christ has been raised up, the first in a long legacy of those who are going to leave the cemeteries.**

USELESS MESSAGE & PREACHING

13 If there's no resurrection, there's no living Christ. 14 And face it - if there's no resurrection for Christ, everything we've told you is smoke and mirrors, and everything you've staked your life on is smoke and mirrors.

USELESS FAITH

14 And face it - if there's no resurrection for Christ, everything we've told you is smoke and mirrors, and everything you've staked your life on is smoke and mirrors.

UNTRUE WITNESS

15 Not only that, but we would be guilty of telling a string of barefaced lies about God, all these affidavits we passed on to you verifying that God raised up Christ - sheer fabrications, if there's no resurrection.

UNFORGIVEN SIN

17 And if Christ wasn't raised, then all you're doing is wandering about in the dark, as lost as ever.

UNKNOWN DEAD

18 It's even worse for those who died hoping in Christ and resurrection, because they're already in their graves.

US MOST PATHETIC

19 If all we get out of Christ is a little inspiration for a few short years, we're a pretty sorry lot.

BUT.....

CHRIST IS RAISED

20 But the truth is that Christ has been raised up, the first in a long legacy of those who are going to leave the cemeteries.

APPLICATION

**My Faith is anchored by the certainty
of
the Resurrection of Jesus Christ**