

Easter

What If The Resurrection Did Not Really Happen?

1 Corinthians 15:3-8, 12-26 (NLT) – I passed on to you what was most important and what had also been passed on to me. Christ died for our sins, just as the Scriptures said. ⁴ He was buried, and he was raised from the dead on the third day, just as the Scriptures said. ⁵ He was seen by Peter and then by the Twelve. ⁶ After that, he was seen by more than 500 of his followers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. ⁷ Then he was seen by James and later by all the apostles. ⁸ Last of all, as though I had been born at the wrong time, I also saw him.

¹² But tell me this—since we preach that Christ rose from the dead, why are some of you saying there will be no resurrection of the dead? ¹³ For if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised either. ¹⁴ And if Christ has not been raised, then all our preaching is useless, and your faith is useless. ¹⁵ And we apostles would all be lying about God—for we have said that God raised Christ from the grave. But that can't be true if there is no resurrection of the dead.

¹⁶ And if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised. ¹⁷ And if Christ has not been raised, then your faith is useless and you are still guilty of your sins. ¹⁸ In that case, all who have died believing in Christ are lost! ¹⁹ And if our hope in Christ is only for this life, we are more to be pitied than anyone in the world.

If The Resurrection Was A Hoax...

- Jesus was not raised from the dead. v 12-13
- Our message and our faith are meaningless. v 14
- We are lying to ourselves and the world. v 15
- We are still guilty of our sins. v 17
- All Christians who have died are in hell. v 18
- People should feel sorry for us for being so gullible. v 19

1 Corinthians 15:20-26 (NLT) - But in fact, Christ has been raised from the dead. He is the first of a great harvest of all who have died. ²¹ So you see, just as death came into the world through a man (Adam), now the resurrection from the dead has begun through another man (Jesus). ²² Just as everyone dies because we all belong to Adam, everyone who belongs to Christ will be given new life.

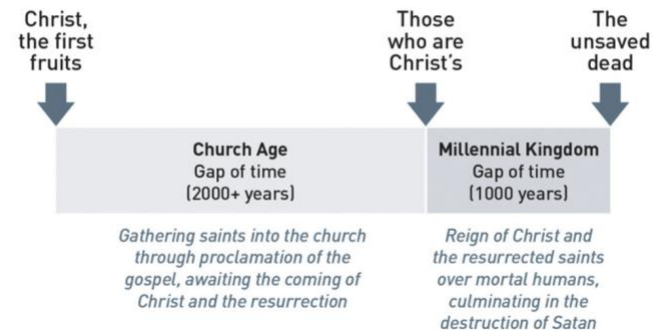
²³ But there is an order to this resurrection: Christ was raised as the first of the harvest; then all who belong to Christ will be raised when he comes back. ²⁴ After that the end will come, when he will turn the Kingdom over to God the Father, having destroyed every ruler and authority and power. ²⁵ For Christ must reign until he humbles all his enemies beneath his feet. ²⁶ And the last enemy to be destroyed is death.

Why Does The Resurrection Matter To Us?

- The end of our lives is not the end.
- Everyone will spend eternity somewhere.
- Everyone will experience a resurrection.

Matthew 25:34, 41, 46 (NLT) – Jesus said, “Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the creation of the world.’ ⁴¹ Then the King will turn to those on the left and say, ‘Away with you, you cursed ones, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his demons.’ ⁴⁶ They will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous will go into eternal life.”

The Three-Stage Resurrection Process



- Jesus gave us the way to be in heaven forever.
John 11:25-26 (NLT) - Jesus told her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying. ²⁶ Everyone who lives in me and believes in me will never ever die.”