**The Gift That Overcomes Death[[1]](#footnote-1)**

Four truths about the resurrection of the believer to help put death in its proper perspective:

**I. The Witnesses of the Resurrection**

A. The testimony of the Scripture – vv. 3-4

v 3. – *according to the Scriptures...*

v. 4 – *according to the Scriptures...*

B. The testimony of the apostles – v. 5

C. The testimony of the eyewitnesses – v. 6-7

v. 6 – *most of whom remain until now*

D. The testimony of Paul – v. 8-11

1 Corinthians 6:11 - *Such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God.*

2 Peter 1:16 - *For we did not follow cleverly devised tales when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of His majesty.*

**II. The Significance of the Resurrection**

A. Our preaching is in vain – v. 14a

B. Your faith is in vain – v. 14b

C. Your witness is false – v. 15

D. Christ has not been raised – v. 16

E. You are still in your sins – v. 17

F. Those who have died in Christ are eternally lost – v. 18

G. We are of all men most to be pitied – v. 19

H. We are all still just in Adam – v. 21-22

I. Christ is not reigning – v. 23-24

J. Christ’s mission has failed – vv. 25-28

K. Leading others to Christ and baptizing them to take the place of those who have died is worthless – v. 29

L. Our sacrificial service is vain – vv. 30-32a

M. We may as well live for today – v. 32b

1 Corinthians 15:33 - *Do not be deceived: “Bad company corrupts good morals.”*

I Corinthians 15:34 - *Become sober-minded as you ought and stop sinning; for some have no knowledge of God. I speak this to your shame.*

**III. The Illustrations of the Resurrection**

A. A grain of wheat – vv. 36-38

verse 36 – *that which you sow does not come to life unless it dies.*

B. Different kinds of flesh – 39-40

C. Different kinds of glory – vv. 40-41

D. Conclusions

1. It is sown a perishable body, it is raised an imperishable one – v. 42

2. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory – v. 43

3. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power – v. 43

4. It is a natural body, it is raised a supernatural one – v. 44

E. Light from other passages

1. Will we know one another in heaven?

2. Will I still be married to my spouse in heaven?

Matthew 22:30 - *For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven.*

3. Will we eat in heaven?

1 John 3:2 - *...We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is.*

4. Will I be disappointed in heaven?

a. Perfect pleasure

Psalm 16:11 - *...In Your presence is fullness of joy; in Your right hand there are pleasures forever.*

b. Perfect knowledge

1 Corinthians 13:12 - *...but then I will know fully just as I also have been fully known.*

c. Perfect comfort

Luke 16:25 - *But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your life you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus bad things; but now he is being comforted here, and you are in agony.*

d. Perfect love

1 Corinthians 13:13 - *But now faith, hope, love, abide these three; but the greatest of these is love.*

e. Perfect joy

Matthew 25:23 - *His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful slave. You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.*

**IV. The Implications of the Resurrection**

A. Remember that you can’t get to heaven with your body – vv. 50 - 53

Psalm 116:15 - *Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His godly ones.*

B. For the believer in Christ, His resurrection guarantees yours – vv. 54-57

1 Corinthians 15:57 - *but thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

C. Abound in the work of the Lord while you have the opportunity to do so – v. 58

1. Steve Viars. Faith Baptist Church [↑](#footnote-ref-1)