**"THE FIRST EPISTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS"**

**Chapter Fifteen**

**OBJECTIVES IN STUDYING THIS CHAPTER**

1) To know and understand that the resurrection of Jesus is the basis of our faith

2) To prove out why we believe that Jesus was indeed raised from the

 dead

3) To notice the sequence of events which will occur at the end of time

 as presented in this chapter

4) To understand what is revealed about our own future resurrection

 from the dead

**SUMMARY**

In this chapter Paul deals with problems the Corinthians were having

concerning the resurrection of the dead. Evidently there were teachers

at Corinth claiming there would be no resurrection. Paul answers this

false doctrine by reminding them of the gospel which they received and

which proclaimed the resurrection of Jesus from the dead (**1-11**). He

then proceeds to verify the resurrection with several different lines

of argumentation (**12-34**). The last half of the chapter is devoted to

answering anticipated questions concerning how the dead will be raised

and with what body will they come (**35-58**).

**OUTLINE**

**I. THE RESURRECTION: PROCLAIMED IN THE GOSPEL (1-11)**

 **A. THE GOSPEL IN RELATION TO THE CORINTHIANS (1-2)**

 1. Paul proclaimed it and they received it (**1**)

 2. By it they are saved, but only if they hold fast to it (**2**)

 **B. HIGHLIGHTS OF THE GOSPEL (3-8)**

 1. Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures (**3**)

 2. He was buried and rose again the third day according to the

 Scriptures (**4**)

 3. He was seen by many eyewitnesses (**5-7**)

 4. He was seen by Paul himself, who by the grace of God was able

 to preach the gospel (**8-10**)

 5. Such was the gospel preached, and the Corinthians had believed

 it (**11**)

**II. THE RESURRECTION: VERIFIED BY THE APOSTLE PAUL (12-34)**

 **A. CONSEQUENCES IF THERE IS NO RESURRECTION (12-19)**

 1. Christ is not risen from the dead (**12-13**)

 2. The apostles' preaching and the Corinthians' faith is vain

 (**14**)

 3. The apostles are false witnesses (**15-16**)

 4. They are still in their sins (**17**)

 5. Those who have died in Christ have perished forever(**18**)

 6. Those who hope in Christ are the most pitiable of all men (**19**)

 **B. CHRIST'S RESURRECTION AND OUR RESURRECTION (20-28)**

 1. Christ is the "firstfruits" (**20**)

 2. As in Adam all die, so in Christ all shall be made alive

 (**21-22**)

 3. A brief description as to when this will occur (**23-28**)

 a. At the coming of Christ (**23**)

 b. This will be the end, when Christ delivers the kingdom to

 God (**24-28**)

 1) When He has put an end to all rule, authority and power

 (**24**)

 2) For Christ must reign till God has put all enemies under

 His feet (**25**)

 3) The last enemy being death itself (**26**)

 4) When all is made subject to Christ, the Son will also be

 subject to Him Who put all things under Him (**27-28**)

 **C. ADDITIONAL ARGUMENTS FOR THE RESURRECTION, WITH A WARNING**

 **(29-34)**

 1. Why are some being baptized for the dead if there is no

 resurrection? (**29**)

 2. Why do the apostles and others suffer harsh persecution if

 there is no resurrection? (**30-32**)

 3. Beware of evil influence and those who do not have the

 knowledge of God (**33-34**)

**III. THE RESURRECTION: DESCRIBED BY PAUL (35-58)**

 **A. IN ANSWER TO THE QUESTION: "WITH WHAT BODY DO THEY COME?"**

 **(35-49)**

 1. It will be different from the one sown, just as the plant is

 different from the seed (**35-38**)

 2. Illustrations of the different types of bodies in the physical

 world (**39-41**)

 3. Thus the resurrected body will be different from the physical

 body, though it is the same as the one sown (**42-49**)

 a. The weak, dishonorable, corruptible body will be raised in

 incorruption, glory and power (4**2-43**)

 b. The natural body, patterned after the first Adam, will be

 raised a spiritual body patterned after the Last Adam

 (**44-46**)

 c. Those who have borne the image of the man of dust from the

 earth, will one day bear the image of the Man of heaven

 (**47-49**)

 **B. IN ANSWER TO THE QUESTION: "HOW ARE THE DEAD RAISED UP" (50-58)**

 1. Flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does

 corruption inherit incorruption (**50**)

 2. The mystery of the resurrection as revealed by Paul (**51-57**)

 a. All shall be changed, whether dead or alive (**51**)

 b. It will occur in the twinkling of an eye, at the last

 trumpet (**52**)

 c. The corruptible, mortal man will put on incorruption and

 immortality, and we will be victorious over death through

 Jesus Christ our Lord (**53-57**)

 3. A final exhortation to be steadfast, immovable, always

 abounding in the work of the Lord (**58**)

**END CHAPTER 15**