



Here We Stand Series: Part 10: Jesus Resurrection
Larry Stuart ~ September 27, 2015

“If Jesus rose from the dead, then you have to accept all that he said; if he didn’t rise from the dead, then why worry about any of what he said? The issue on which everything hangs is not whether or not you like his teaching but whether or not he rose from the dead.”
— Timothy Keller, *The Reason for God: Belief in an Age of Skepticism*

I. Denial of Resurrection is not new

- a. 18th century “higher criticism” inadvertently produced some fanciful theories to explain away the resurrection
 - Swoon Theory
 - Mass Hallucinations
- b. 20th century Jesus seminar, sought to demythologize Scripture
 - No historical evidence for resurrection but still has moral significance.

II. Biblical case for the Resurrection

- a. Jesus promised the resurrection
 - Matthew 16:16, 17:23, Mark 8:31, Luke 9:21-22
- b. All four Gospels tell the same story
 - Matthew 28, Mark 16:1-8, Luke 24, John 20-21
- c. Apostles affirmed the resurrection
 - Acts 4:1-2, Romans 4:25, 1 Corinthians 15:3-7, 2 Corinthians 4:14, Philippians 3:20-21 Colossians 3:4, 1 Thessalonians 1:10
- d. Most of apostles martyred for their faith

III. What’s at stake? 1 Corinthians 15:12-19

- a. Christ’s humanity – v 12-13
- b. Preaching and Faith are in vain v14

- c. Paul is misrepresenting God by saying there is a resurrection – v15
- d. Jesus lied about resurrection
- e. Faith is futile
- f. No forgiveness for sin v 17-18
- g. To be pitied the most – v 19

IV. But if it's true

- a. Jesus is the first fruit – we will be like him
 - Romans 8:29, 1 Corinthians 15:20,23
- b. We are justified before God
 - Acts 17:30, Romans 4:24-25, 6:6
- c. All things are under subjection to him
 1. Death
 - Romans 6:6-8, 1 Corinthians 15:26, 54, Revelation 20:14
 2. Sin
 - Romans 6:7, 12:1, 1 Corinthians 15:27-28, Hebrews 2:5,8
- d. He lives to make intercession for us
 - Romans 8:34, Hebrews 7:25
- e. Final reckoning, all things will be renewed
 - Revelation 21

V. The fact of the resurrection demands a response

- a. Unbelievers
- b. Believers

“I know the resurrection is a fact, and Watergate proved it to me. How? Because 12 men testified they had seen Jesus raised from the dead, then they proclaimed that truth for 40 years, never once denying it. Every one was beaten, tortured, stoned and put in prison. They would not have endured that if it weren't true. Watergate embroiled 12 of the most powerful men in the world-and they couldn't keep a lie for three weeks. You're telling me 12 apostles could keep a lie for 40 years? Absolutely impossible.”

— Charles W. Colson