

**CHRIST'S RESURRECTION
PROVIDES CHRISTIANS
AN ETERNAL HOPE**

1 CORINTHIANS 15

OVERVIEW

- This week we will look at the first half of chapter 15 dealing with the resurrection of Jesus and our future resurrection.
- Then we will answer a question about the millennial kingdom and the reign of Christ.



INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION

- The one theme in the first half of chapter 15 is the reality that the Resurrection of Christ.
- It is central to the Gospel message and the foundation of Gospel hope.
- Christ's Resurrection means that the Christian, too, has hope of resurrection.
- Paul says Christians can endure this life because this life is not the end.

**CHRIST'S RESURRECTION
IS TRUE AND CENTRAL
TO THE GOSPEL MESSAGE**

1 CORINTHIANS 15:1-11

THE GOSPEL

- Paul essentially is saying that there is one Gospel and it centers on the Resurrection of Christ.
- It is this message of Christ and His life, death and Resurrection that is the full Gospel, worthy of believing. There is no other.
- These first eleven verses show the centrality and the historical nature of Christ's Resurrection.

THE GOSPEL

- Paul wants these Christians to understand that the death and Resurrection were historical fact. People saw it.
- He wants to make known that the Gospel is of first importance. The death and Resurrection are central.
- “Vain belief” - if someone denied the Resurrection, there would be no saving faith.

HISTORICAL FACT

- “According to the scriptures” - shows that the death of Christ and his Resurrection was God’s plan. This was the message of the Old Testament.
- It’s likely that Paul doesn’t have one passage in mind here (God’s history throughout the Old Testament).
- Paul shows that this was God’s plan from the beginning. This was the hope for the world. This was the defeat of the serpent promised in Genesis 3:15.

PURPOSE

- Paul writes that Christ's death had a purpose: for sin.
- If He didn't die and raise, then sins have not been dealt with. Sins have not been taken care of and if that was the case then we would have to bear the punishment to take care of them ourselves.
- Christ died for sins. Christ died to extinguish death. Christ died so that we could experience eternal joy with Him.

**CHRIST HAS RISEN,
THEREFORE THE CHURCH
WILL RISE WITH HIM**

1 CORINTHIANS 15:12-34

RESURRECTION

- In this section of chapter 15, Paul wants to show that Christ's Resurrection is connected to the Resurrection of believers and any hope after death.
- Paul's question in verse 12 shows that there are those who believe in Christ, however, who don't believe in the resurrection of the dead.
- They may believe that Christ has raised, but not that those in Christ will be.

RESURRECTION

- But Paul's argument is that if Christ didn't resurrect, then believers won't, and if believers don't, then Christ didn't.
- On the other hand, if He did, then so, too, will believers, and if we do, then He did as well.
- Paul says in verse 17 that without the Resurrection, our faith is meaningless and hopeless, and we are still in bondage to sin.

RESURRECTION

- Christ died for sins. These sins are the effects of Adam, which Paul brings up in 22.
- Just as in Adam, all die due to sin, so in Christ all will share in His life and Resurrection that believe in Him and confess Him.
- Once Christ comes and resurrects His Bride, the Church, God will rule and reign for eternity.
- Death and sin will be done away with.

RESURRECTION

- Without the Resurrection, sin is killing us, and we will die without hope of our situation improving.
- Faith is hoping that all will be made right and Christ will come as king and defeat death and evil.
- This is what believers hope for, what Paul describes in verses 24–28.

RESURRECTION

- In Paul's concluding section, he describes the basic view of life we should have if the Resurrection isn't real.
- Why put ourselves in danger if this is all there is? Why risk our lives?
- If there's no Resurrection, then let everyone indulge in self-pleasure and gratify every desire.

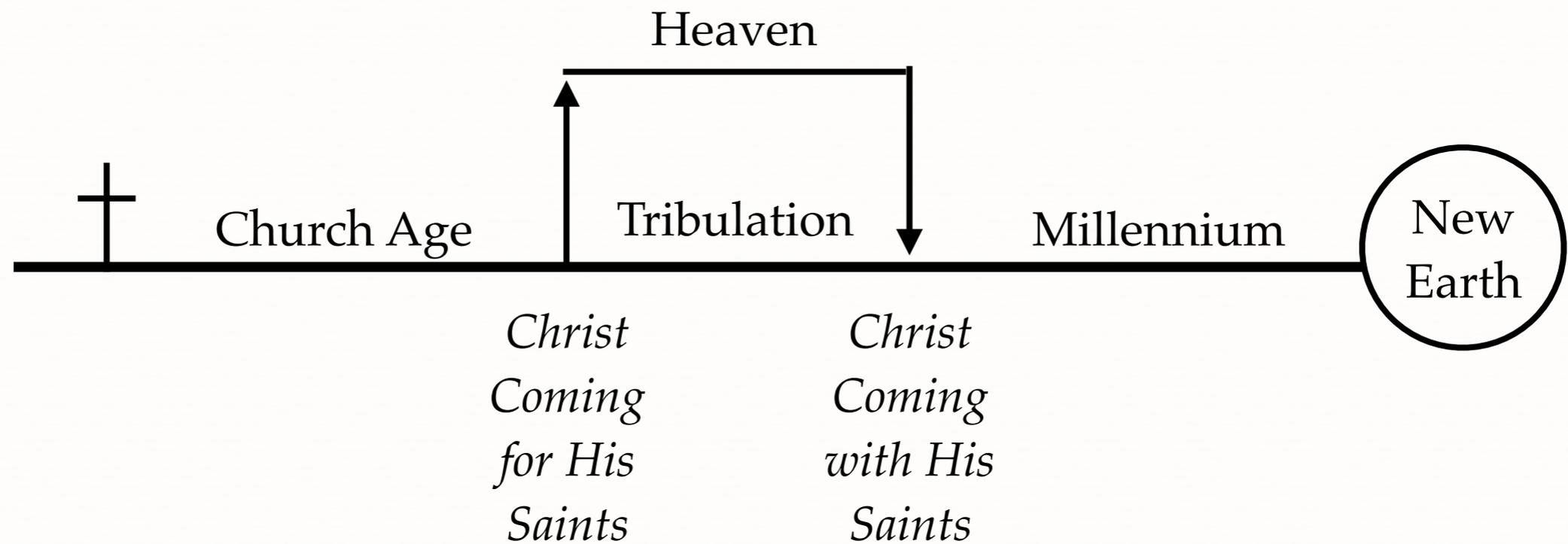
RESURRECTION

- Paul compares the Corinthians' confusion concerning the Resurrection with inebriation and tells them to snap out of it. Wake up and think rightly.
- Don't be deceived, he writes in verse 33. One's faith directly connects to one's lifestyle.
- Paul wants these misinformed Christians to realize their misplaced views aren't isolated. They will bleed into the church and those that don't know better than to believe wrong teaching.

QUESTION:

**WHEN DOES THE 1000
YEAR REIGN OF CHRIST
FIT INTO THE
END TIME PICTURE?**

PRE-MILLENNIAL VIEW



REDEEMPTIVE HISTORY

- All of God's redemptive purpose since the fall of man culminates in the Kingdom of our Lord Jesus
- Christ's Kingdom has been called: paradise regained.
- This paradise regained, this Kingdom of Christ, is the one-thousand year millennial reign of the Savior over all of the earth.
- It is the fulfillment of His redemptive promise and the realization of the hope of all the saints of all the ages.

REDEMPTIVE HISTORY

- At that time, God will bring salvation and righteousness and peace to the very center of the universe.
- At that time that Jesus Christ will reign fully as King of Kings and Lord of Lords over all of the creation.
- The Millennial Kingdom is the end of human history.
- There will be a new heavens and new earth, an everlasting kingdom.

REDEEMPTIVE HISTORY

- Redemptive history runs from the Fall through this period of time until Jesus comes back in Judgment.
- His Kingdom lasts for a thousand years in a renewed and rejuvenated world.
- And then the whole universe is destroyed to make way for the new heavens and the new earth untouched by sin.

MILLENNIAL KINGDOM

- Millennial Kingdom is the theme of Revelation 20.
- The final reign of the Lord Jesus Christ during that thousand years is in the city of Jerusalem on the throne of David over Israel as a nation and over the whole world.
- Other passages in Scripture give more details about the Millennial Kingdom (2 Samuel 7, Psalm 2, Isaiah 11, 35, 40-48, Jeremiah 23-33, Ezekiel 34, Daniel 2, 7, Hosea 3, Joel 3, Zephaniah 3, Zechariah 14).

**INTERPRETATIONS
OF THE MILLENNIAL
KINGDOM**

PREMILLENNIAL

- Christ comes at the end of God's wrath and judgment on the world to set up the Millennial Kingdom.
- The premillennial view is based on a literal interpretation of Scripture.
- If you just take what it says and follow the chronology of Revelation, you'll come up with a premillennial view.

PREMILLENNIAL

- Revelation 20 is about a real Kingdom.
- It talks about a time of restitution, a time when Israel is prospering.
- It is also a time when warfare is no more and even animosity and hostility in the animal kingdom has ended.
- This is a literal reading of Revelation.

POSTMILLENNIAL

- Premillennialism says things are going to get worse.
- Postmillennialism says things are going to get better.
- Christ isn't going to come until the end of the Kingdom, until the Millennial Kingdom is over.
- Who is going to bring in the Kingdom? The church.
- Christ's power in His church will triumph over the world system and demonic forces.

POSTMILLENNIAL

- Postmillennialism is a difficult position to hold in light of world events.
- Do you think the world is getting better and better?
- Are we in the Millennium?
- When did it begin?
- Will it last 1000 years?

AMILLENNIAL

- The amillennialist says there is no kingdom, or else that the kingdom is already here.
- They say the kingdom is now. The kingdom is the church age.
- Christ is ruling now. Christ is here now ruling over the world.
- They reject a literal interpretation of Revelation with regard to prophecy.

AMILLENNIAL

- They say that all the promises of the kingdom (to Israel) will be fulfilled in the church in the church age right now.
- The church is the Israel of God.
- There is no future for Israel.
- God will never revive Israel.

PROBLEM WITH BOTH VIEWS

- Where does Revelation 20:1-3 say Satan is during the Millennial Kingdom? He is bound. Satan is out of the picture.
- Postmillennial view - fighting Satan to bring about the return of Christ.
- Amillennial view - the kingdom is here.
- They will cite Matthew 12:22-29 that talks about binding a strong man (Satan bound at the cross).

**CHARACTERISTICS
OF THE MILLENNIAL
KINGDOM**

TOPOGRAPHY

- The violent upheavals during the Tribulation will level all the polluted cities of our sinful world.
- Jesus will erect new, clean, peaceful communities at the beginning of the Millennium.
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TOPOGRAPHY

- Zechariah 14:4 - when Jesus returns, the Mount of Olives will split in two from east to west into a great valley.
- Zechariah 14:8 - the water will flow from Jerusalem both to the western sea (Mediterranean) and to the eastern sea (the Dead Sea) all year (Joel 3:18).

TOPOGRAPHY

- Some creationists suggest that: “much of the waters of the ocean will already have been re-elevated above the atmosphere, restoring in some measure the antediluvian waters.” This would reform the water vapor canopy similar to the pre-flood world.
- This water vapor canopy would provide protection from various forms of radiation (cosmic, UV).
- No longer would there be violent rainstorms, hurricanes and tornadoes.

TOPOGRAPHY

- Tectonic movements will trap water beneath fresh sedimentary volcanic deposits creating artesian springs.
- Rains will be gentle mists from localized daily evaporation and precipitation.
- Temperature and humidity will support plant and animal life around the globe.

NEW ECOLOGY

- Isaiah 11:6-7 - formerly ferocious animals will be peaceable (wolf dwell with the lamb, cow and bear shall graze together).
- Isaiah 11:8 - Children will no longer be threatened by snakes (play over the hole of the cobra, hand on adder's den).

NEW ECOLOGY

- Isaiah 41:18 - “I will open rivers on the bare heights, and fountains in the midst of the valleys. I will make the wilderness a pool of water, and the dry land springs of water.”
- Deserts and wilderness will have water, barren places will have vegetation.

NEW AUTHORITY

- Revelation 20:4 and 20:8 - we are going to reign with Him. This is known as the reign of the saints.
- Jesus is the Supreme One, but we will have new authority in Christ's Kingdom.
- Revelation 19:6 - He is King of Kings and Lord of Lords.
- We will be His agents, carrying out His will in the world.

NEW AUTHORITY

- God's government in the Millennial Kingdom will be complete in its authority and power (Psalm 2:8, 72:9 and Isaiah 11:4).
- His rule will provide righteousness and perfect justice (Isaiah 9:7 and Jeremiah 23:5).

RESOURCES

