

Apply The Word

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THINK SPIRITUALLY
THE LETTER OF FIRST CORINTHIANS

Message Info

Title:

Our All in All

Speaker:

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Date:

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Scriptures:

1 Corinthians 15:12-34

Theme: The resurrection of our Lord guarantees that God will become our all-in-all.

Introduction: Though we'd all like to guarantee certain things in life, we know that this life is full of sorrow and suffering. Yet God offers us a guarantee far greater than anything we could hope to secure for ourselves in this life. He guarantees us life, eternal life, with a promise that far exceeds anything else in life.

Here are 2 points and an exhortation to fill out that promise:

1. Life is futile if there is no resurrection (12-19)

There was a false belief in the ancient world that our bodies would not raise again, though our spirits would live on.

Christianity hinges on the bodily resurrection. If Christ has been raised, then that same resurrection is available to those who trust in him. If he has not been raised, then there is no resurrection and no hope.

2. The resurrection of Christ guarantees satisfaction (20-28)

The grandeur and glory of eternity will not be found primarily in ourselves or our environment, but in the presence of God himself.

Just as the glory of the Garden was lost through the sin of one man, so through Christ the glory of the future is secured through his obedience and victory.

Jesus, in his resurrection, is the firstfruits. He shows the future. He guarantees that a greater harvest is coming, of resurrection life for those who trust in him.

3. Therefore we should make God our all-in-all now (29-34)

Regarding "baptism for the dead": no one is quite sure how to interpret it. It likely refers to the seeing baptism as uniting us with other Christians who have already died.

Paul ends this section with a correction, a rebuke. He wants to ensure that the Corinthians do not miss the importance of the resurrection.

Paul himself lived as an example of someone whose life had been transformed by Christ and who is suffering and offering his life in response to the reality of the resurrected Savior.

Questions:

1. What is the importance of the resurrection of Jesus for the gospel? For *your* life?

2. Do you find your satisfaction in God himself? Or do you chase after other goods to satisfy you?

3. How can you trust Jesus, repent of idolatries, and grow in your love and desire for him?