

# 1 CORINTHIANS:

God's Glorious Church in Real Life

**Sermon Title:** "From Adam, to Christ, to Glorious Eternity" (Part 2)

**Scripture:** 1 Corinthians 15:12-34

Pastor Chris Fritz / Sunday, October 31, 2021

## INTRODUCTION

### I. VERSES 12-19: IMAGINE IF THERE IS NO RESURRECTION (Last Week)

### II. VERSES 20-28: JESUS CHRIST - THE FORERUNNER, FIRST-FRUITS, AND REIGNING KING

1 Corinthians 15:20-25 -

1) No matter how you resolve certain future/eschatological questions, you can (and should!) rejoice and be comforted by the fact that Jesus wins!

*Philippians 2:10-11 -*

1 Corinthians 15:25 -

2) It's true to say that Jesus IS reigning and that there is a "future-more-to-come" aspect of His reign.

*Matthew 28:18-19; Revelation 22:3-5 -*

1 Corinthians 15:26 -

3) Jesus destroys death! For everyone who is eternally alive and forever resurrected, death is powerless, irrelevant, and defeated.

*Revelation 20:14; 1 Corinthians 15:54-55 -*

1 Corinthians 15:27-28 -

4) Jesus (as the faithful, righteous Son - in submission to the Father) will complete the good, sovereign plan of the Father, and the end result will be that, in everything, God is glorified!

*Romans 11:36; Jude 25 -*

### III. VERSES 29-34: STAY FOCUSED, STAY SHARP, KEEP ALERT UNTIL JESUS RETURNS

#### A. Helpful rules and principles for interpreting difficult verses:

- 1) NEVER build a doctrine, belief, practice, or theology around only one isolated verse!
- 2) NEVER build a doctrine, belief, practice, or theology that clearly contradicts other Bible verses.
- 3) ALWAYS interpret difficult passages of Scripture with clear passages of Scripture.
- 4) ALWAYS keep the focus where it belongs; keep the main thing the main thing!

#### B. Two good interpretations for verse 29:

- 1) Paul is not commending or encouraging this practice, merely recognizing its existence.
- 2) Paul is describing how people were getting saved and then baptized because of (based upon) the strong life and testimony of those who had suffered and died for Christ.

#### C. In verses 30-32, Paul speaks about his own life, ministry, and hope of resurrection:

#### D. In verses 33-34, there is practical wisdom for the Corinthians... and for us:

Wisdom Nugget #1: Don't let fools (bad company) be a guiding voice in your life.

Wisdom Nugget #2: Be alert, be watchful against error, and plant yourself in the truth!

*John 11:25-26; Mark 8:34-35 -*

#### Questions for Further Study, Reflection, and Application...

1. Is Jesus reigning today or will He reign in the future? Or is it both?
2. What is happening between God the Father and God the Son in verses 24-28?
3. What does that phrase mean at the end of verse 28, "that God may be all in all"?
4. What does Paul share about his own life and ministry in verses 30-32?
5. What instruction and wise counsel does Paul give in verses 33-34? How can you apply these truths to your life today?