

This entire chapter deals with resurrection. The belief in Christ's actual bodily resurrection is basic to Biblical faith. Understanding the reasons and reality of His resurrection is the basis for the belief and understanding of the future resurrection of our own physical bodies.

We will divide this chapter into 4 sections to help us understand it a bit easier. The Resurrection of Christ, The Resurrection of the Dead, The Resurrection Body and The Mystery of the Resurrection and The Victory of the Resurrection.

Since this is such an important subject I would ask you, as I normally do, to pray and ask the Lord to help you have an open mind and heart to the truth we will be studying. Not every scripture is easily understood but we will try to keep it in context and allow the Holy Spirit to guide us in truth. Read the chapter at least twice before starting to answer the study guide.

This study guide is a bit longer because I have added several verses to further explain the chapter.

The Resurrection of Christ vss. 1-11

1. What does Paul call on them to remember? Vs.1
2. Verses 3 & 4 define the gospel that Paul preached. What are the elements that make up the Gospel? Why do you think each of these elements is important to the Gospel message?
3. In spite of his cruel past, what does Paul say about himself? Vs.10
4. Is that your opinion of yourself or are you still being defeated by the past?

What is keeping you from seeing yourself through Grace as God does?

We cannot be used by God in the way he would desire to use us if we allow our past to continue to convince us that we are of little worth. The truth is Christ died for us, the moment we surrender our lives to him realizing he has paid the price for those sins and we ask him to forgive us and to be our Lord and Savior, he will do just that. If you have done this then I want you to know my friend it is your enemy, Satan, that is reminding you of your past, not your Lord.

Romans 8:1 There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus

Heb. 10:15-17 And the Holy Spirit also bears witness to us; for after saying, ¹⁶“This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my laws on their hearts, and write them on their minds,” ¹⁷ then he adds, “I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.

The Resurrection of the dead vs. 12–34

5. Divide your paper into two columns list the truths using verses 12– 20
If the Resurrection is False If the Resurrection is True
6. Why do you think Paul made such a big deal about Christ’s resurrection?
7. What difference would it make to you and your spiritual life if Jesus wasn’t resurrected? “Fallen asleep” in verse 20 means to have died.
8. How can Paul say in vs. 20 that it is a fact that Christ has risen from the dead? Read verses 5–6 What are these people called in a court of law?
9. Have we been supplied plenty of witnesses to his resurrection? Why is this important?
10. If there were no resurrection, why would someone come to the conclusion Paul quotes in verse 32, “Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die.”? What kind of attitude does this lack of belief foster about life?

In Vs.29–34 Paul addresses the idea of baptism for the dead. What is meant by this is not clear. Scholars have debated this for a long time. Whatever it is, Paul is reporting but not approving it and clearly not commanding it. The Bible gives no support to the idea that anyone can be saved apart from a personal faith in Christ nor that baptism for someone else has any meaning.

11. Why would all the risks and sacrifices for the gospel (vs. 30 – 32) be in vain if it were not for the resurrection?
12. He gives a warning in vs. 33 – what is this warning? Has this principle affected your life or could it affect your parenting?

The Resurrection Body

13. In vss. 35–41 Paul uses an example from nature to explain our resurrected bodies. What is the example? Explain the process in your own words
14. Let’s fill in another small chart. Our resurrected bodies will be real. But they will be very different from our present physical bodies. List the ways in which they will be different.

Our resurrected bodies vs.42-44

Sown in	Raised in
Sown in	Raised in
Sown in	Raised in

15. How should knowing this Truth about our bodies, current and future affect our body image and attitudes today?

The Mystery of the Resurrection and the Victory of the Resurrection

16. Verses 50-58 are exciting verses to read and study. What does Paul say cannot inherit the kingdom of God?

17. Why is this very important fact to know for our understanding of the resurrection?

Now he will reveal a mystery. Read 1 Thess. 4:13-18 (see question 18)

The Greek word mysterion which is used here refers to a secret divine in scope, and needs to be made known by God to men through his Spirit. Mysterion is a temporary secret, which once revealed is known and understood.

Vs.51 We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed. (I know what you are thinking...haven't we seen that sign on the door to the church nursery? Yes, perhaps but that is really not what Paul is talking about here)

18. What is the wonderful promise given to us in this verse?

19. What does God do for us in the resurrection? (We just wrote it all out on the chart of vss.42-44)

20. What is this change called? What do you think this change is? Why do we need it?

Phil. 3:21 But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹ who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.

21. What will happen at the time of this change?

1 Corinthians 15 study guide

1 Thess. 4:13–18 But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴ For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁵ For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁶ For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. ¹⁸ Therefore encourage one another with these words.

20. Vss. 54–57 describes the victory, what will happen that will usher in victory for all believers? What does that mean for us—how should knowing this Truth affect how we view death and grieving when a beloved believer dies?

21. Verse 57 describes Paul’s response to what he has just explained about resurrection and its benefits. Why should you feel thankful for the resurrection and its impact on you?

22. In light of all we have seen today how are we to live until we are transformed and resurrected? Vs.58

Phil.2:12–16 Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

¹⁴ Do all things without grumbling or questioning, ¹⁵ that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, ¹⁶ holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain.

John 15:1–5

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. ² Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. ³ Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴ Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. ⁵ I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing

23. What impact has studying about the resurrection made in you? How has it affected the way you view life and death? How has it affected the way you view current relationships, manage your home life, or carry out your day to day activities?