



The Tri-Cities Edifier

Volume 5

October 14, 2018

No. 41

The Resurrection of Jesus

If Jesus' body was not resurrected from the grave, there are some serious realities to face.

- Preaching serves no purpose. (1 Cor. 15: 13) An atheist would like this to be true.
- Any belief in Christ and His resurrection has no sustenance, it is empty. (1 Corinthians 15:13) Those who hate religion would like this to be true.
- The apostles are liars for bearing false witness of Jesus being alive again when He was not. (1 Corinthians 15:15) The unbelieving scholars of today would like this to be true.
- Faith in Jesus is futile having no benefit. Those who believe in science as the higher thought would like this to be true.
- Those who believe in the resurrection are still in their sins. (1 Corinthians 15:17) Those who ridicule the message of the Bible would like this to be true.
- Those who have already died in Christ have perished. (1 Corinthians 15:18) The evolutionist who believes there is no life after death would like this to be true.
- If the only hope that Christians have in this life is Jesus the Christ, then of all the people in the whole wide world, there is none deserving of more pity than those who believe in the resurrection of Jesus the Christ. (1 Corinthians 15:19) Those in sin would like the hope we have in Christ to be untrue.

"But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep." (1 Corinthians 15:20)

Jesus was resurrected from the dead! If He did not, life truly has no meaning and you die. There is absolutely nothing to look forward to but to perish. But... The apostles, like Paul, delivered unto us "that Christ, died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day, according to the Scriptures." We are also told that His resurrected body was seen by the twelve apostles as well as over five hundred other people at the same time.

(1 Corinthians 15:3-6)

So, because Jesus was resurrected from the dead, there are some serious realities to face.

- The preaching of Jesus the Christ is not empty. The Gospel of Jesus Christ is God's power unto salvation. (Romans 1:15)
- Believing in Christ and His resurrection saves. (Romans 10:9-10)
- The apostles told the truth about Jesus still being alive. (1 Corinthians 15:1)
- Believing in the resurrected Jesus is profitable. (Revelation 14:13)
- Those who believe in the resurrection of Christ are no longer in their sins. (Acts 2:38; 22:16)
- Those who have already died in Christ have not perished, they are asleep until He comes again. (1 Thessalonians 4:14-18)
- Those who believe in the resurrection are not to be pitied, but will reign. (2 Timothy 2:12)

Jesus was declared to without a doubt the Son of God by His resurrection from the dead. (Romans 1:4)

"But what does it say? "THE WORD IS NEAR YOU, IN YOUR MOUTH AND IN YOUR HEART" (that is, the word of faith which we preach): that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is

made unto salvation. For the Scripture says, "WHOEVER BELIEVES ON HIM WILL NOT BE PUT TO SHAME." (Romans 10:8-11)

STACY

Our Job

~by James E. Cooper

We are told that one-half of all the people who have ever lived, from the beginning of time unto the present, are living today. Think about this in view of the command, "Preach the gospel to every creature." If we preach the gospel to every person of our own generation, we are preaching to half of the people who have ever lived!

World population is now about 7 billion people. Most of them will be lost for eternity (Matthew 7:13-14). "Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest" (John 4:35). These billions must be reached one-by-one.

He Who Practices Righteousness Is Righteous

by Heath Rogers

"Little children, let no one deceive you. He who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous" (1 John 3:7). In his epistle, John called upon faithful Christians to take a stand against some who were claiming they could continue in sin and still be considered righteous before God. Such an error can be attractive to those who want to enjoy sin, so they were warned not to be deceived. Instead, they were to use Jesus as their standard. He did not sin, and neither could they.

This admonition is still needed today. Actions speak louder than words. We can make claims regarding our character, but the truth is shown in our conduct. None of us is perfect - but a willful, continued involvement in sin is "unrighteousness." We must not deceive ourselves. Good intentions and a sincere heart are not a substitute for practicing (doing, living) righteousness.

No Problem

by Irvin Himmell

When a person is eager to learn the way of salvation and is willing to accept the word of God as the final authority, there is no problem in teaching him what to do to be saved. When differences arise among brethren and all have a humble attitude, and there is a sincere desire for peace and unity, and all parties want to follow God's word, the settlement is no problem.

When a person genuinely believes that Jesus is the Son of God and wants to yield in submission to Christ, once he is shown the Lord commands baptism for the remission of sins, because he is honest and longs to go to heaven, there is no problem getting him to be baptized.

When a worshiper comes into the assembly with the right attitude of heart, there is no problem if the song leader misses the pitch on one of the hymns or if the building is too warm, or if the janitor has missed some cobwebs over the pulpit.

Many of the problems that arise are the bitter fruit of improper thinking. "And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God." Romans 12:2