

Sermon Study Questions

Sunday, July 21, 2024

1. Read 1 Corinthians 15:12-19
2. Why does Paul spend so much time, fifty-eight verses, speaking of the future resurrection of the dead to the Corinthians?
3. Paul uses an argument from formal logic known as a *reductio ad absurdum* to show the absurdity of their opposition to the future resurrection of the dead. Explain what that argument is.
4. To show the Corinthians the absurdity of their opposition to the future resurrection, Paul shows that it is vitally linked to Jesus' resurrection. In doing so, he returns to speak of Christ's resurrection and show why it is absolutely critical to Christianity. According to our text, what are the implications of Christ not being raised?
5. Why is it that if Christ has not been raised "you are still in your sins" (v.17)? After all, we are repeatedly told in Scripture that He died for our sins, so why is it if He died for your sins, but wasn't raised, that you are still in your sins?
6. Why is it that a denial of a future resurrection is also to deny Jesus' resurrection?
7. In v.18 Paul speaks of hope. What does this Greek word for hope mean? Paul says that if in this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied." What is it you are hoping for in Christ? Why do you expect what you expect out of the Christian life?
8. Rather than being pitied most of all people, as a Christian you should be envied most of all people. Why is that? Be thorough (it's a very good spiritual exercise for us all to regularly think about this).
9. What practical application can you make from this text/sermon?
10. Pray!

Reading of Law: Matthew 5:27-28

"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.'²⁸ But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

Prayer of Confession:

"Our Father in Heaven, you are beautiful and glorious and holy in all of your being and in all of your ways. And your Law, which is a perfect reflection of your perfect character, reveals your beauty, glory and

holiness to us. But Father we are not like you. Our hearts are unholy and impure, something this commandment shows us and convicts us of. Father, we have done what this commandment forbids. We have failed to be chaste and pure in word, thought, and deed. And we have failed to promote the purity and chastity this commandment requires of us, both within ourselves and in others. Father, we confess this, and we ask for your forgiveness. Please create in each of us a clean heart and grant us the continual desire to live for your glory. We thank you for Jesus Christ our Savior, who died to save sinners like us. It's in His name we pray, Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness: Psalm 130:3-4

If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand? ⁴ But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared.

WLC: 137

Q. 137. Which is the seventh commandment?

A. The seventh commandment is, You shall not commit adultery.

[Ex. 20:14.](#)

OT Reading: Daniel 12:1-4

"At that time shall arise Michael, the great prince who has charge of your people. And there shall be a time of trouble, such as never has been since there was a nation till that time. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone whose name shall be found written in the book. ² And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. ³ And those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky above; and those who turn many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever. ⁴ But you, Daniel, shut up the words and seal the book, until the time of the end. Many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase."