



Sermon Title: Resurrection Fire: Christ Alive

Text: 1 Corinthians 15:50-58

“The resurrection power of Christ, imparted to us through the Holy Spirit, empowers believers to live victoriously—overcoming temptation, enduring suffering, growing in holiness, and persevering in hope for His return.”

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ is not just a date on the calendar or a dusty doctrine in a textbook—it is the **heartbeat of the Christian faith**. While it proves Jesus’ deity and secures our salvation, its power is not confined to the past. For the early disciples, encountering the risen Savior was a trajectory-shifting event. It transformed them from a huddle of fearful runaways into bold, fearless pioneers of the Gospel. However, as the church in Corinth discovered, when we lose sight of this reality, we do not just lose a fundamental doctrine; we lose our moral compass, our hope, and our passion.

To live without the Resurrection is to live for the temporary. To live *in* the Resurrection is to experience: *Life-changing transformation, Unshakeable hope, Clear purpose, and Victorious living.*

Jesus’ Resurrection is not just something we celebrate once a year; it is the living reality that defines every single day. Let us explore how looking back, looking ahead, and looking at today changes everything.

LOOK BACK, CONSIDER THE PROOFS.

Paul did not ask the Corinthians for blind faith; he provided a legal-grade defense. He knew that if the Resurrection is a fairy tale, our faith is a failure. But as we look back, we see that the Resurrection is **T.R.U.E.**

T – Transformed Lives: The most immediate proof was the radical change in the disciples’ lives. Paul himself went from a violent persecutor of the church to its most tireless builder. The disciples transitioned from hiding in fear to facing execution with joy. People do not die for a lie they invented; they die for a reality they encountered.

R – Revealed in Scripture: The Resurrection of Jesus was not a Plan B or a freak accident. Paul emphasizes it happened *“in accordance with the Scriptures.”*

- **The Sacrifice:** Isaiah 53 prophesied He would be pierced for our transgressions.
- **The Burial:** Isaiah 53:9 foretold His grave with the rich.
- **The Victory:** Hosea 6:2 pointed to the third day rising. The events of Easter were written in the stars and the scrolls thousands of years before the first stone was rolled away.

U – Upholding through Witnesses: Jesus did not just appear to a few people. He appeared to Peter, the twelve, and eventually to over 500 people at once (1 Corinthians 15:6). In any court of law, 500 eyewitnesses constitute an airtight case. He spent 40 days teaching and eating with them, improving. He was not a ghost, but a living Savior.

E – Exercising Reasoning: Paul uses logic to corner his audience: If Christ is not raised, then our preaching is useless; your faith is a delusion; and we are still trapped in our sins. Skeptics throughout history have tried to disprove it, only to be converted by the evidence.

LOOK AHEAD, ASSURED OF CHRIST'S VICTORY.

If the past proves the Resurrection happened, the future proves why it matters. Paul paints a picture of a coming reality where death—the last enemy—is finally and fully destroyed. When we look ahead, we do not see an end; we see a beginning.

Paul describes Jesus as the “first fruits.” In the same way, the first harvest suggests the rest of the crop is coming; Jesus’ Resurrection is the guarantee of our own. Because He rose, those who belong to Him will rise too. We all feel the sting of death—our bodies weaken, fail, and eventually decay. But Paul promises a radical upgrade:

- The Perishable becomes Imperishable.
- The Weak becomes Powerful.
- The Natural becomes Glorified. No amount of plastic surgery or modern medicine can achieve what the Resurrection promises: an instant transformation into immortal bodies designed for eternity.

Death is the ultimate separator. It divides souls from bodies and friends from friends. But because of Christ’s victory, death has lost its sting. The law no longer condemns us, and the grave no longer holds us (1 Corinthians 15:54–55). As we look ahead, we see the horizon without goodbyes. We see a God who wipes away every tear, ending the era of mourning, crying, and pain. In Christ, the former things pass away, and we are left with a hope that cannot be shaken.


LOOK NOW, LIVE FULLY IN THE PRESENT.


Paul concludes his masterpiece on the Resurrection by shifting from the “then and there” to the “here and now.” Because Jesus is alive, how we spend our Tuesday mornings and Friday nights matters.


- **Stay Ready** (Readiness): Christ’s return will be sudden, “*in the twinkling of an eye*.” We do not live in fear, but in high-alert anticipation, keeping our lamps lit and our hearts prepared.
- **Live Thankful** (Gratitude): Gratitude keeps us humble and reminds us that our strength comes from the Vine, not the branch.

- **Remain Steadfast** (Faithfulness): Paul calls us to be *immovable*. When life gets heavy, we shake it off, remembering that this world is temporary.
- **Work Diligently** (Commitment): Paul does not just say “work”; he says “abound.” Passion for God does not have an expiration date or a specific job description.
- **Stand Assured** (Confidence): You might feel like your contribution is small, but in the economy of the Resurrection, nothing is in vain. Jesus’ Resurrection guarantees that your work has an eternal impact.

The same power that rolled away the stone now empowers you to overcome temptation, endure suffering, and grow in holiness. Do not just celebrate the Resurrection once a year; wear it every day.

 **Ponder:** Jesus’ Resurrection is not a past event to remember or a future hope to wait for; it is a present reality that demands you to live differently today. Because Christ is alive, your daily labor—no matter how small—is never wasted and holds eternal significance.

 **Practical Application:** Identify one area of your life or work where you feel discouraged or insignificant and consciously offer it to God today as an act of worship, trusting that your commitment to Him is never in vain.

 **Prayer:** Lord, thank You that the victory of Your Resurrection is my current strength; help me to live this day with unwavering hope, keeping my eyes fixed on Your return while faithfully serving You in everything I do, Amen!