

EASTER

Why Easter Matters



Message by **Tom Mercer**
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1 Corinthians 15:14-17, 50-52

The *atomos* after you die:

1. You'll know the people who claimed to have seen the resurrected Jesus were right.

1 Corinthians 15:6, 1 Corinthians 15:12, John 20:24-25

2. You'll realize that all of the difficulties you were asked to endure in life were worthwhile.

1 Corinthians 15:32

3. You'll be completely free from the discouragement of failure.

1 Corinthians 15:17

4. You'll fear nothing.

1 Corinthians 15:54-57

5. You'll be anticipating the most exciting part of your life.

1 Corinthians 15:23-26

6. You're going to wake up feeling more real than ever before.

1 Corinthians 15:35-39

7. You'll be remarkably more efficient than you are today.

1 Corinthians 15:42-43

1. What was your favorite part of the Easter Service this year?

Read 1 Corinthians 15:12-19.

2. What obstacles kept the Corinthians from believing in the Resurrection? What keeps people from believing today?

3. If the resurrection of the dead is not true, what impact does that have on our faith, the forgiveness of sins, and the future of deceased believers?

Read 1 Corinthians 15:20-28.

4. What events does Paul describe in these verses?

5. Read Romans 5:12-14. What did Paul mean when he said Adam was a type or pattern of the one to come? How is Jesus the new Adam?

6. Paul identified Jesus as “the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.” (1 Cor. 15:20, 23) What are firstfruits and how do they help us understand this passage?

Read 1 Corinthians 15:30-32

7. What sacrifices did Paul and the other apostles make on behalf of the Gospel? Would they have done this if they hadn’t believed in the Resurrection?

8. What final charge and warning does Paul give the Corinthians (v. 32)?

9. What effect does the Resurrection have on you today? What difference does it make in your oikos? In your work? In your recreation?

10. How does the Resurrection of Jesus motivate you to share the Gospel with others? What reactions can you anticipate when you do? How would Jesus have you respond to those reactions?