

# DEALING WITH PROBLEMS



## A Study of 1 Corinthians

### 6. Confusion about the Resurrection

#### Introduction

One of the most important truths of our Christian faith is the resurrection of the dead. Those in Corinth, who had put their trust in Jesus, believed that Christ had been raised from the dead. We see this in 1 Corinthians 15:11 where Paul says, "Whether, then, it was I or they, this is what we preach, and this is what you believed." However there were some who said there was no resurrection of believers. Paul addresses this issue by showing that the resurrection of Christ proves the principle of resurrection.

Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-58

#### **1. Proof of the Resurrection 1 Corinthians 15:1-11**

- ✘ Who saw Jesus after he was raised from the dead? V4-8
- ✘ Some people say there is no proof of the resurrection, you just blindly believe. How would you explain the reality of the resurrection to a non-believer who really wanted to know? Discuss.

#### **2. Importance of the Resurrection 1 Corinthians 15:12-28**

- ✘ What difference would it make to our Christian faith if there was **no** resurrection from the dead? Find 6 or 7 things mentioned in these verses. V13-19. Also see v30-32.
- ✘ Why would we be 'still in our sins' if Christ had not risen? V17
- ✘ What spiritual principles does Paul set out in v20-23 about the resurrection?
- ✘ Since Christ did rise from the dead, what glorious events will take place in the future? V24-28

#### **3. Understanding the Resurrection Body 1 Corinthians 15:35-58**

- ✘ To explain what the resurrected body will be like Paul gives two explanations from nature. What are they? V36-38, 39-42a
- ✘ How do these illustrations help us understand the resurrection of the body?
- ✘ What will be the differences between our present physical body and the resurrection body we will receive? V42-44. Discuss.

- ⌘ Compare the first man with the second in v45-49. What can we learn about the resurrection body from these verses?
- ⌘ How and when will the resurrection of believers take place? V50-57. Also see Matthew 24:31 and 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17.
- ⌘ How should the knowledge of the resurrection motivate our lives? V58
- ⌘ What does the resurrection mean to you personally? Share.

### Conclusion

What a glorious hope we have as believers! Just as Christ was raised from the dead, so we will be too. After addressing many issues in the church in Corinth, and finally the question of the resurrection of believers, the Apostle Paul ends with these words, "Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain."