



Week 4

Sermon Series: Death is Defeated

Sermon Title: "Christ is Risen Indeed!"

Sermon Text: 1 Corinthians 15:20-28

Study Handout Week of: February 20, 2022

Group Week of: February 27, 2022

Sermon Date: March 6, 2022

Scriptures for Additional Daily Studies	
Day 1	Firstborn of the Dead – Col 1:15-20
Day 2	Adam & Jesus – Romans 15:12-21
Day 3	Enemies Subdued – Psalm 2
Day 4	Enemies a Footstool – Psalm 110
Day 5	Christ's Supremacy – Daniel 7:9-14

## The Text: 1 Corinthians 15:20-28

<sup>20</sup> But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. <sup>21</sup> For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. <sup>22</sup> For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. <sup>23</sup> But each in turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him. <sup>24</sup> Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority, and power. <sup>25</sup> For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. <sup>26</sup> The last enemy to be destroyed is death. <sup>27</sup> For he "has put everything under his feet." Now when it says that "everything" has been put under him, it is clear that this does not include God himself, who put everything under Christ. <sup>28</sup> When he has done this, then the Son himself will be made subject to him who put everything under him, so that God may be all in all.

## Textual Questions

- 1) What is the message God and Paul are speaking to the Corinthians (and to you) through this passage?
- 2) What does Paul mean when he says Christ is the "firstfruit" of those who've fallen asleep?
- 3) Why does Christ's dominion have to include death?

## Discussion Guide Questions

- 1) If you had a friend who was doubtful that God would truly resurrect them after their death, how would you encourage them and build their faith in the resurrection? (Try to use Paul's encouragement as well as anything you would offer).
  
- 2) Paul says that there is a proper order to the Resurrection. That Christ was resurrected first, and then when he returns, those who belong to Him will also be resurrected. Who are those who "belong" to him? And why do you think that this is the *proper* order?
  
- 3) In many other places in Scripture, God is the one giving authority to Christ (Daniel 7:14, Matthew 28:18, Philippians 2:9-11). But here in 1 Corinthians 15, we see that Christ is going to give the Kingdom to God the Father (v24). What does this tell us about God's motivations for redemption of humanity and the defeat of sin and death? Secondly, is our salvation about us, or is it a by-product of the relationship between the Father and the Son?
  
- 4) What are the greatest "enemies" that humanity has faced through its past? Why do you think the greatest "enemies" of humanity have such recurring power?
  
- 5) Paul says that Jesus has to subject everything, including death, the last enemy. If Christ's resurrection is the firstfruit of the defeat of our final enemy, what does this tell us about the rest of humanity's "enemies"? Has Christ defeated those things or not? If yes, then how? If no, then when will He defeat these things?
  
- 6) Christ's defeat of every enemy can be a powerful spiritual help if we take it in faith today. Where is there an enemy in your life that you need Christ's power to overcome? Share if you can, what that enemy is, with your group. Second, how can you experience the power of Christ's victory over your "enemy" today?
  
- 7) The end goal of Christ's victorious work over every earthly power, authority, sin, and even death, is that God may be all in all! The purpose of our salvation is ultimately, to set things right with God, and to glorify Him forever. How can this reality change the way you struggle in your fight with the flesh? Work on applying this to some area of sin in your life and share your experience with your group.