

Faith Realized in the Risen Christ

Introduction

- 1. Before we can believe in our Lord and Savior we must first gain faith. But How do we gain this faith?**

Rom 10:17 So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

- 2. When we read God's word and are determined to know and do His will then we will develop Bible faith.**

2 Cor 5:7 For we walk by faith, not by sight.

- A. Our faith can be as the apostle Paul's, knowing the Risen Christ.**

- 3. Let's look at the apostle Paul's words to the Corinthians showing the risen Christ is faith's reality.**

Faith Realized Through Scripture

Text: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

- 1. An expository lesson of these verses shows us that our faith is strengthened, it's realized, when we know Jesus & His sacrifice.**
- 2. These verses show that the resurrection of Christ is an historical fact.**

Verse 1

- 1. Paul declares the gospel to them - that which they received and stand in.**

Gal 1:11-12 But I make known to you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ.

- A. He reminds the Corinthians that they had accepted what he preached in Corinth and they have taken a stand in it.**

Verse 2:

- 1. He explains to them that this gospel has the power to save.**

Rom 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for **it is the power of God to salvation** for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.

1 Pet 1:23 having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, **through the word of God** which lives and abides forever,

- A. No man can ever hope to be saved apart from the gospel of Jesus.**
- B. Jesus said: "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." (John 14:6)**
- C. We can only be saved through the hearing and obedience of the gospel of Christ.**

Romans 10:11-17

- 2. One must hold fast (to cling to) the word of God --- if not, then the belief is in vain.**
 - A. Paul was saying here that these brethren would be saved unless their faith was worthless.**
 - B. Paul was trying to get these Corinthians to agree that:**
 - 1) They had believed what Paul had preached concerning Christ.**
 - 2) They were standing firm in their convictions.**
 - 3) They were being saved by it.**
 - a. Saved **"IF"** they held fast that Word Paul preached unto them.**

Verse 3:

- 1. Paul was giving to the Corinthians exactly what he had received.**
- 2. He tells how Christ died for our sins.**
 - A. Paul here distinguishes the message of the gospel from first century Jewish expectation that the Messiah would establish as earthly kingdom.**
 - 1) This verse says “died for our sins.” The scriptures never did predict that Christ would establish an earthly, political kingdom.**
 - 2) Instead, they foretold the coming of a Messiah who would be a suffering Savior.**

Acts 3:18 "But those things which God foretold by the mouth of all His prophets, that the Christ would suffer, He has thus fulfilled.

- B. There can be no doubt that the first century preachers thought that the Old Testament foretold the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus. Notice:
1 Peter 1:10-12**

2 Pet 1:19 And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place

Luke 24:44-46 Then He said to them, "These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me." And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures. Then He said to them, "Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day,

Verse 4:

1. He was buried and rose again the third day ACCORDING to the SCRIPTURES!

A. What scriptures?

Isa 53:10 Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him; he has put Him to grief. When You make His soul an offering for sin, he shall see His seed, He shall prolong His days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in His hand.

Ps 16:10 For You will not leave my soul in Sheol, nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption.

Matt 12:40 "For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

1) Peter reflected on the words of David during his first gospel sermon.

Acts 2:27 For You will not leave my soul in Hades, nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption.

Verse 5:

1. Seen by Cephas and the twelve

Luke 24:34-40

Verse 6:

- 1. Seen by five hundred brethren at once.**
 - A. Jesus told his disciples to meet him in a designated place in Galilee.**
 - 1) He told the women to go and tell the disciples that he is risen from the dead and that he would be in Galilee (Matt 28:7).**
 - 2) To the apostles he said to tell my brethren that they go into Galilee (Matt 28:10).**
- 2. This appearance of Jesus to all these disciples was probably the one in which Paul was referring to.**
- 3. Some of these 500 hundred still lived but some had died.**

Verse 7:

- 1. He was seen of James.**
 - A. This is James the Lord's brother. James had mentioned that he would not eat or drink of the cup until he had seen him risen from the dead. Jesus' brothers had not fully believed in Him (Jn 7:5).**
 - 1) After this time, James was a solid believer. An important person in the church.**

Gal 1:18-19 Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to see Peter, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James, the Lord's brother.

Verses 8-9:

1. **Seen by the apostle Paul.**
Acts 9:3-6
2. **One born out of due time.**
 - A. **From the spiritual point of view, he had not been a disciple during the lifetime of Jesus. His apostleship was not that of the norm.**
3. **The least of the apostles.**
 - A. **He was least because he was the one that persecuted the church. He was comparing his past with the other apostles.**
 - B. **The other apostles had been with Jesus throughout His ministry, had witnessed him perform many miracles, and were a part of the initial proclamation of the gospel.**
 - 1) **Paul had done what he could to destroy Christianity**
 - **Cast his vote against Stephen (Acts 26:10)**
 - **Held garments of those stoning Stephen (Acts 8:1)**
 - **Cast saints in prison, sending them to foreign cities.**
 - C. **This is why Paul viewed himself as an unworthy apostle and the chief of sinners.**

1 Tim 1:15 This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief.

Verses 10-11:

- 1. **God’s grace was NOT in vain! He recognized where he had been and where he wanted to be — he labored more abundantly to that end!**

Christ Has Risen for You and Me

- 1. **Paul was trying to get these Corinthians to see that the bodily resurrection of Jesus was an essential element of the gospel.**
- 2. **Before they could fully understand, they needed to believe, have faith.**
- 3. **Christ has risen----do you believe it?**
- 4. **Look what Paul told the Romans:
Romans 6:1-11**
- 5. **Has your faith been realized in the risen Christ?**

Invitation

Place		Date	

Faith Realized in the Risen Christ.wpd
Richard Thetford July 1997 – Reaccomplished May 2005