



## Sermon Notes

### I. The Implications of Christ's resurrection (as outlined in I Cor. 15:12-20)

• Without Jesus' resurrection from the dead:

- A. Our message is **useless**. (v.14)
- B. Our faith is a big **lie**. (v.15)
- C. Our faith is an **exercise in futility**. (v.17a)
- D. We are still in our **sins**. (v.17b)
- E. Those who have preceded us in death are '**lost**'—utterly '**gone**.' (v.18)
- F. We are to be **pitied above all mankind**. (v.19)

• But the wonderful truth is:

- G. Jesus **rose from the dead** which means there is **life after death**. (v.20)
  - H. Some historical facts regarding Jesus from extra Biblical sources
    - 1. The Jewish historian Josephus, employed by unsympathetic Roman government, recorded the existence and some of the life events of Jesus. From his writings we can learn that Jesus was a **real** historical person. (Antiquities Book 18, chapter 3, paragraph 3)
    - 2. When Jesus was crucified, the Bible says the sky was **darkened** from noon to 3:00 p.m. (Matt. 27:45). First and second century writers Thallus and Africanus both acknowledge this event. (see Africanus Chronology, 18:1)
- ### II. Vital facts to know and do to become a follower of Jesus
- A. **Everyone** has sinned. (Rom. 3:23)
  - B. God **loves** me and sent His Son to earth for me. (Jn. 3:16)
  - C. To accept God's gift of **forgiveness**, I place my **trust** in Jesus—in His payment for my sin. Gal. 2:16).
  - D. Take the time **daily to grow** in your faith by reading the Bible. (II Pet. 3:18a; Jude 1:20)
  - E. Find a good church and become a **regular part**. (Heb. 10:25)
  - F. Rest in the reality of **eternal life** with Christ and all His followers. (Jn. 14:2-3)



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