

Lamar E. Cooper, Sr.  
Interim President  
Executive Vice President & Provost  
Criswell College

## Selected Scriptures

# The Resurrection's: Five Miraculous Confirmations

## Miracle #8

**Introduction: The Greeks rejected the idea of the resurrection:** Paul encountered the Greek philosophers who denied the resurrection, Acts 17:30-34, just before he went to Corinth, see 18:1-17.

- Some at Corinth were saying, "Dead Men don't rise"; Others said the resurrection. was not important. They reasoned that God good even without a resurrection. Also, the Word of God still good, and Christ's sacrifice still good so it was not an issue if it never happened.
- Paul considered the resurrection to be of utmost importance. He dedicated the entire chapter of 1 Corinthians 15 as a monumental affirmation of faith in the resurrection. 1 Corinthians 15 is the longest chapter in Paul's writings (58 verses)and it is the longest statement on a single subject in the entire New Testament.
- There are five miraculous confirmations of the truth of the Gospel that are set forth in 1 Corinthians 15:1-58

### I. The Miraculous Confirmation of Scripture, 1 COR. 15:1-4

1. All the OT passages that refer to resurrection, even though a dim hope in OT but nevertheless a hope, Ps. 16:10-11 quoted in Acts 13:34-35; Dan. 12:2, 3, 13; Ezek. 37:1-14; Job 14:7, 10; 19:25-27
2. Jesus' word in Matt. 12:35-40 was confirmed. There he gave a sign, the sign of Jonah as a type of the resurrection.
3. Jesus' word in Mark 8:31-33 is confirmed. Specifically he told His disciples about His death & resurrection.
4. Jesus' gave a revelation to the disciples on the road to Emmaus in Luke 24:25-27 that all the OT was about Him.
5. Jesus' word in John 2:18-22 was confirmed. He told his listeners that destroy this temple, I will raise it in 3 days. It was a prediction of His resurrection.
6. If the resurrection is not true, the words of 1 Corinthians 15:50-58 are untrue, hollow, and meaningless.

7. If the resurrection is not true then the statement in 2 Corinthians 1:20, "For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him are Amen, to the glory of God through us," also is untrue.

**II. The Miraculous Confirmation of the Disciples, 1 COR. 15:5-15**

1. When they fled after the arrest of Jesus their credibility was suspect. After the resurrection Jesus restored their credibility, Jn 20:19-23.
2. If he lied about the resurrection the entire Gospel is invalidated, 1 Cor 15:12-19. This invalidates all the rest of message?
3. If Jesus did not rise, there is no way to account for the dramatic change in the disciples. They became bold witnesses, see Acts 4:5-12.  
-Before resurrection, they all forsook Him and fled - Matt. 26:56  
-After the resurrection they were bold - Acts 4:12-13 saw their boldness

**III. The Miraculous Confirmation of Sins Forgiven, 1 COR. 15:17-19**

1. Without the resurrection, there is no forgiveness of sins, v. 17.
2. He died to pay the debt of sin (Rom 4:23-25ab), becomes untrue.
3. He was raised for our justification, Rom 4:25c-5:1-11, becomes untrue.

**IV. The Miraculous Confirmation of Our Own Resurrection, 1 COR. 15:20-23**

1. If Jesus didn't rise, we won't rise; 1 Thess. 4:13-19, but Because He lives we live in sure hope of our own resurrection, 1 Cor 15:18-19.
2. If Jesus didn't rise, death, our enemy is still with us, 15:20-23.
3. If Jesus did not rise then there is no power of the resurrection, Phil 3:10-11.

**V. The Miraculous Confirmation of the Truth of the Gospel, 1 COR. 15:24-58**

1. If Jesus did not rise, then no power was imparted, no commission was given - Matt. 28:18-20; If He did not rise no things are under his rule, 1 Cor. 15:24-28
2. Baptism a picture, testimony of His death burial and resurrection is meaningless if He did not rise. If he did not rise baptism is meaningless and we baptized for the dead (Christ) vv. 29-34.
3. If He wasn't resurrected and glorified, we won't be, vv. 35-49
4. If He had not victory over the grave, we have no hope of final victory, 15:50-58

**"But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep," 1 Corinthians 15:20.**