

## Sermon Notes

The Resurrection Community

1 Corinthians 15:29-34 July 17, 2016

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### Introduction

We are those who live between the resurrections; the resurrection of Jesus which invaded in the middle of history, and the future resurrection of those who will follow at the end.

### Review Points...

The resurrection is (or was)...

Central to the Gospel, according to the Scriptures, bodily, public, rooted in history, that which forms a community confession, provides victory over sin, is royal or kingly.

Last week we saw that the baptism for the dead actually referred to an Old Testament washing which was provided for those who came into contact with the dead or with death (Numbers 19; Hebrews 9).

### Looking Back & Looking Around

In 15:29, by pointing to the Old Testament washing, Paul was *looking back*. Now, in 15:30-34, Paul is going to be *looking around*. For the one (15:29), Paul looked to the past. Now (15:30-34), he is looking to the present.

In looking to the past at the washing for contact with the dead, Paul was saying that the Lord has always provided for those who are in contact with death and that death does not have the last word.

In looking to the present, Paul is saying pretty much the same thing about the Lord's provision and death not being the final word.

For the verses before us today, the simply summary is this: *because of the bodily resurrection, we live in a certain way. There are things we do and there are things we do not do.*

### 15:30

The reality of the bodily resurrection explains why Paul can endure life-threatening dangers. There is a kind of living death that is present for the followers of Jesus, and this is not some kind of blind silliness when it comes to trials and dangers (2 Cor. 1:8).

### 15:31-32

After Paul first visited Corinth he went to Ephesus and there he faced an angry mob (Acts 19). This is likely what he means when he says he fought with beasts at Ephesus.

If there is *no* bodily resurrection, then life—truly!—does not matter. By observing someone's behavior, you can see whether or not they belong to the Risen Christ.. There is a resurrection community.

Paul follows this with the conclusion if there is no resurrection from the dead: just eat and drink, for tomorrow we'll all die.

### *Surrounded by Death—Two Ways of Living*

There is a kind of (seeming) similarity between those who are surrounded by death and the way someone lives. Yet, there are profound differences too...

### 15:33-34

The bodily resurrection of Jesus keeps us from lives of desperation (15:30-32). Paul also says that he doesn't want us to be deceived (15:33). Once again, *the bodily resurrection means that we live in a certain way.*

We are not to be deceived, evil company corrupts good habits.

It is possible to be deceived.

We are expected to have good habits.

The word "company"

### Questions:

What about the company you \_\_\_\_\_ ?

What about the company you \_\_\_\_\_ ?

What kind of company do you \_\_\_\_\_ ?

What kind of company do you \_\_\_\_\_ ?