

Christ Has Indeed Been Raised from the Dead! April 1, 2018

(1 Corinthians 15:19-26) If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are to be pitied more than all men. ²⁰ But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹ For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. ²² For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. ²³ But each in his own turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him. ²⁴ Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. ²⁵ For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶ The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

- 1. Think of some funerals you have attended. Which ones proved to be the most comforting? Why?
- 2. Some in the early church denied the physical resurrection of Christ. Their hope in Christ was only for this life. How might we fall into a similar trap? Why is this such a "pitiful" thing?

3. Why does Paul refer to our risen Savior as "firstfruits"?

4. When and how did death come into the world? 5. What comparison does Paul draw between Adam and Christ? 6. In what way has Jesus turned death into a mere sleep? 7. When will the dead in Christ rise? 8. Use Paul's words in verse 24 to explain how the life to come will be different from the life we have now. 9. Agree or disagree and why? Christ's work is finished.

10. Agree or disagree and why? Jesus has destroyed death.