

# DOES RESURRECTION CHANGE ANYTHING?

1 Corinthians 15:12-19 & 54-57

January 25, 2026

## WHAT WE BELIEVE

The world vs. the church.

The question we must ask: \_\_\_\_\_?

### THE STAKES – Why Resurrection Isn't Optional

**Key Verse: 1 Corinthians 15:12-19**

- If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ did not rise
- If Christ did not rise, then \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 19)
- We sacrificed everything for a \_\_\_\_\_

**Key Truth:** Without resurrection, death still has its stinger. With resurrection, Jesus takes the stinger into Himself.

### THE TRIUMPH – Death Has Been Swallowed

#### Verse to Memorize – 1 Corinthians 15:54-57

*"Death has been swallowed up in victory. Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting? The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."*

**The Theological Core:**

- Death has power because of \_\_\_\_\_.
- Sin is death's \_\_\_\_\_.
- The law exposes \_\_\_\_\_.
- Christ dealt with \_\_\_\_\_ and satisfied the \_\_\_\_\_.
- Therefore, the weapon is \_\_\_\_\_.

**Key Truth:** "But thanks be to God" – present tense. The victory is being *given now*, not deferred to eternity.

### WHAT ACTUALLY CHANGED

If resurrection is true, four things shift in reality:

**1. Death is no longer inevitable.**

People still die physically. But death is no longer the \_\_\_\_\_. The pattern—everything dies—has been broken by God Himself.

**2. Suffering is reframed.**

If Jesus stayed dead, His suffering would be tragedy. But if He rose, His suffering was \_\_\_\_\_. God saying: "I enter your suffering, and I will remake everything."

**3. Justice is guaranteed.**

If death wins, injustice wins—the oppressor escapes. But if Christ rose, God has shown His commitment to \_\_\_\_\_. He will renew creation.

**4. Your life is no longer just waiting to die.**

Your life isn't a prelude. It's \_\_\_\_\_ in God's renewal of all things. Your work has \_\_\_\_\_ weight. Your love has \_\_\_\_\_ significance.

### THE ALREADY/NOT YET

#### The Tension:

"If Christ rose and death is defeated, why do people still die? Why is the world still broken?"

**The Answer: We live between two days.**

**Key Truth:** We don't live as if we're waiting to escape. We live as if we're *cooperating with God's renewal that's already begun*.

We work for justice not because we can fix the world—we can't. But because \_\_\_\_\_ will renew the world, and our work matters in that renewal.

### WHAT THIS MEANS FOR US

**If resurrection is true, your life matters eternally. Specific Scenarios:**

**Broken relationship?**

Resurrection means \_\_\_\_\_ is real. God remakes dead things. Maybe the invitation is to participate with God in restoring what's broken.

**Facing injustice?**

Your work for justice matters eternally. You're cooperating with God's \_\_\_\_\_.

**Facing death?**

Death isn't the end—it's a \_\_\_\_\_. For those in Christ, it opens into a new world where God has the last word.

**Young and wrestling with purpose?**

Your choices matter eternally. You're training your soul for \_\_\_\_\_. You matter now.

### THIS WEEK'S CHALLENGE

**Live the resurrection so visibly that people ask you about it.**

Not in a showy way. But so genuinely. So full of hope. So different from the way the world lives—always grasping, always afraid, always living as if death has the final word.

**Where do you need to live toward resurrection this week?**

What broken relationship needs your redemptive hope?

What injustice needs your courageous action?

What fear needs to be replaced with resurrection confidence?