

The background is a rich, painterly landscape. The sky is a mix of deep blues, purples, and oranges, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The hills are rendered in warm, earthy tones of brown, orange, and yellow, with visible brushstrokes and texture. The overall mood is serene and majestic.

BECAUSE

*He Lives*



Now when they heard of the *resurrection of the dead*, some began to sneer, but others said, “We shall hear you again concerning this.” –Acts 17:32



# **The Resurrection is Factual (vv. 1-11)**

**“For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures...”**

*—1 Corinthians 15:3-4—*

# The Resurrection is Factual (vv. 1-11)

## A. The Gospel of Christ (vv. 1-4)

- **Truth Preached:** Paul emphasizes that the gospel he preached isn't a mere tradition but an unchanging truth.
  - It was delivered to him, and he faithfully delivered it to others.
  - This transmission of truth continues through preaching & faith.
- **Purpose of the Gospel:**
  - It's not mere intellectual acceptance; it leads to salvation.
  - Persevering faith results in spiritual rebirth and deliverance from sin's penalty.

# The Resurrection is Factual (vv. 1-11)

## B. The Appearances of the Risen Christ (vv. 5-8)

- **Eyewitness Testimony:**

- Peter and the Twelve disciples saw the risen Jesus.
- Over 500 people witnessed Him at once.
- James and all the apostles encountered Him.
- Paul himself, transformed on the Damascus Road, heard and saw the risen Christ.

- **Staggering Evidence:**

- Large groups of diverse witnesses over time.
- Hostile skeptics like James and Paul attested to the resurrection.

# The Resurrection is Factual (vv. 1-11)

## C. Signs of Resurrection in Paul's Life (vv. 9-11)

- **Paul's Transformation:**
  - From persecutor to apostle.
  - Encounter with the risen Christ changed him.
  - God's grace saved and called him.
- **Historical Bedrock:**
  - Rooted in Scripture (fulfillment of prophecy).
  - Verified by eyewitnesses.
  - Transformed lives testify to its truth.

# The Resurrection is Essential (vv. 12-19)

## Seven Consequences of No Resurrection:

### 1. Christ Has Not Been Raised (vv. 12-13)

- Paul's logic is unyielding: Rejecting Christ's resurrection means denying the resurrection of all believers.
- As he asserts, ***“if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised”*** (v. 13).
- Christ's resurrection serves as the “first fruits,” guaranteeing the future resurrection for His followers.

# The Resurrection is Essential (vv. 12-19)

## Seven Consequences of No Resurrection:

### 2. Uselessness of Gospel Preaching (v. 14a)

- If Christ wasn't raised, preaching about Him becomes futile.
- Declaring a Savior who failed in His mission offers no hope.
- As Paul concisely puts it, ***“if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is vain.”***



# **The Resurrection is Essential (vv. 12-19)**

## **Seven Consequences of No Resurrection:**

### **3. Uselessness of Our Faith (v. 14b)**

- Our faith hinges on Christ's resurrection.
- Without it, our hopes and promises as believers are mere wishful thinking.
- Faith in a dead Messiah is utterly useless.

# **The Resurrection is Essential (vv. 12-19)**

## **Seven Consequences of No Resurrection:**

### **4. Apostles as Liars (vv. 15-16)**

- If Christ remained in the tomb, the apostles would be liars.
- They testified to Christ's resurrection, which would be false.
- Their credibility rests on the reality of the risen Christ.

# **The Resurrection is Essential (vv. 12-19)**

## **Seven Consequences of No Resurrection:**

### **5. Continued Bondage to Sin (v. 17)**

- A living Savior is necessary for rebirth & freedom from sin.
- Without Christ's resurrection, our faith remains worthless.
- Only an infinitely powerful Redeemer can remove our guilt.

# **The Resurrection is Essential (vv. 12-19)**

## **Seven Consequences of No Resurrection:**

### **6. Tragic Fate of Believers Who Died (v. 18)**

- Those trusting in Christ's empty tomb face a grim outcome.
- If the resurrection is false, we perish without eternal life.
- Their (our) hope rested on an empty promise..

# **The Resurrection is Essential (vv. 12-19)**

## **Seven Consequences of No Resurrection:**

### **7. Wretchedness of Christians (v. 19)**

- Not only do deceased believers lack hope, but living believers are pitiable.
- If our hope is limited to this life, we are most to be pitied.
- Sacrifices for a dead Messiah become a cruel delusion.



"Because He lives, I can face tomorrow

Because He lives, all fear is gone

BECAUSE

*He Lives*

Because I know He holds the future

And life is worth the living, just because He lives!"

# **WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?**

**Hear and Learn** – *Rom. 10:17; John 6:45; 17:3*

**Believe** – *Heb. 11:6; John 6:29; 8:24*

**Confess the Lord** – *Matt. 10:32-33; Rom. 10:9-10*

**Repent** – *Luke 13:3; Acts 3:19; 17:30*

**Be Baptized** – *Mark 16:16; Acts 22:16; Gal. 3:26-27; 1 Pet. 3:21*

**Be Faithful Unto Death** – *Revelation 2:10*

**Go and Share the Good News!**

*Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-16*