

Easter 2014  
What If It Didn't Happen?  
1 Corinthians 15:3-8, 12-20

### **1 Corinthians 15:3-8**

<sup>3</sup> For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,

<sup>4</sup> and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,

<sup>5</sup> and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.

<sup>6</sup> After that He appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom remain until now, but some have fallen asleep;

<sup>7</sup> then He appeared to James, then to all the apostles;

<sup>8</sup> and last of all, as to one untimely born, He appeared to me also.

## **If There Was No Resurrection**

### **1. Our Purpose Is Invalid vs 12-16**

#### **1 Corinthians 15:12-16**

<sup>12</sup> Now if Christ is preached, that He has been raised from the dead, how do some among you say that there is no resurrection of the dead?

<sup>13</sup> But if there is no resurrection of the dead, not even Christ has been raised;

<sup>14</sup> and if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is vain, your faith also is vain.

<sup>15</sup> Moreover we are even found to be false witnesses of God, because we testified against God that He raised Christ, whom He did not raise, if in fact the dead are not raised.

<sup>16</sup> For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised;

### **2. Our Freedom Is Imagined vs 17**

#### **1 Corinthians 15:17**

<sup>17</sup> and if Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins.

#### **John 8:21, 24**

<sup>21</sup> Then He said again to them, "I go away, and you will seek Me, and will die in your sin; where I am going, you cannot come."

<sup>24</sup> "Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for unless you believe that I am He, you will die in your sins."

### **Ephesians 2:1, 5**

<sup>1</sup> And you were dead in your trespasses and sins,

<sup>5</sup> even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),

### **Colossians 2:13-14**

<sup>13</sup> When you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions,

<sup>14</sup> having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us, which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.

## **3. Our Assurance Is Impossible vs 18-20**

### **1 Corinthians 15:18**

<sup>18</sup> Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished.

### **1 Corinthians 15:19-20**

<sup>19</sup> If we have hoped in Christ in this life only, we are of all men most to be pitied.

<sup>20</sup> But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who are asleep.