

Trusting In The King Who Raises The Dead

1 Corinthians 15:1-6 (ESV)

Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you – unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep.

Daniel 12:1-4 (ESV)

At that time shall arise Michael, the great prince who has charge of your people. And there shall be a time of trouble, such as never has been since there was a nation till that time. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone whose name shall be found written in the book. And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. And those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky above; and those who turn many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever. But you, Daniel, shut up the words and seal the book, until the time of the end. Many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase.

Daniel 12:8-10 (ESV)

I heard, but I did not understand. Then I said, “O my lord, what shall be the outcome of these things?” He said, “Go your way, Daniel, for the words are shut up and sealed until the time of the end. Many shall purify themselves and make themselves white and be refined, but the wicked shall act wickedly. And none of the wicked shall understand, but those who are wise shall understand.”

The doctrines of the resurrection and of eternal judgment set Christianity apart from every other religion.

Hebrews 9:27-28 (ESV)

And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment, so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

There are just two eternal destinies for all who have ever lived:

Shame or Shine

Proverbs 10:5 (NKJV)

He who gathers in summer is a wise son; he who sleeps in harvest is a son who causes shame.

Proverbs 14:35 (NKJV)

The king's favor is toward a wise servant, but his wrath is against him who causes shame.

Proverbs 17:2 (NKJV)

A wise servant will rule over a son who causes shame, and will share an inheritance among the brothers.

Psalms 132:18 (ESV)

His enemies I will clothe with shame, but on him his crown will shine.

Psalms 132:18 (MSG)

I'll dress his enemies in dirty rags, but I'll make his crown sparkle with splendor.

Shame

Contempt, Reproach, Scorn, Disgrace

All shame is a taste of death.

Psalms 22:6-7 (ESV)

But I am a worm and not a man, scorned by mankind and despised by the people. All who see me mock me; they make mouths at me; they wag their heads;

Ezekiel 5:13-15 (ESV)

Thus shall my anger spend itself, and I will vent fury upon them and satisfy myself. And they shall know that I am the LORD – that I have spoken in my jealousy – when I spend my fury upon them. Moreover, I will make you a desolation and an

object of reproach among the nations all around you and in the sight of all who pass by. You shall be a reproach and a taunt, a warning and a horror, to the nations all around you, when I execute judgments on you in anger and fury, and with furious rebukes – I am the LORD; I have spoken –

Isaiah 66:24 (ESV)

And they shall go out and look on the dead bodies of the men who have rebelled against me. For their worm shall not die, their fire shall not be quenched, and they shall be an abhorrence to all flesh.

1 John 2:28 (ESV)

And now, little children, abide in him, so that when he appears we may have confidence and not shrink from him in shame at his coming.

Shine

1 Corinthians 15:40-49 (ESV)

There are heavenly bodies and earthly bodies, but the glory of the heavenly is of one kind, and the glory of the earthly is of another. There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for star differs from star in glory. So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. Thus it is written, “The first man Adam became a living being”; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not the spiritual that is first but the natural, and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so also are those who are of the dust, and as is the man of heaven, so also are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven.

How can I be assured that I will shine and not be ashamed?

How can I know that I am the wise and not the wicked?

The wisdom that makes us shine is not wisdom that is acquired by education, nor is it a wisdom acquired by age and experience.

The wisdom that separates us from the eternally shamed is the wisdom that is given to us in Jesus Christ.

The wisdom that makes us shine is the wisdom that answers just one question correctly.

Do you trust me?

1 Peter 2:6 (ESV)

For it stands in Scripture: "Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." Trust the King who bore your shame.

Hebrews 12:2 (ESV)

...looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Trust the King who raises the dead.

2 Corinthians 1:9-10 (ESV)

Indeed, we felt that we had received the sentence of death. But that was to make us rely not on ourselves but on God who raises the dead. He delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us. On him we have set our hope that he will deliver us again.

Trust the King to raise you from the dead.

1 Corinthians 15:50-58 (ESV)

I tell you this, brothers: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to

pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory." "O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?" The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.