



Sermon Series: What If?  
Text: 1 Corinthians 15:12-22  
Delivered: March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024  
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## **What If Jesus Wasn't Raised from the Dead?**

**Big Idea: Our faith and lives hinge on the historical truth of Jesus' resurrection.**

### **What if Jesus wasn't raised from the dead? (vs.14-19)**

If Jesus wasn't raised from the dead, then...

1. Christianity is \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The Bible is \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.
3. There is no \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.
4. There is no \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ in death.
5. Christians should be pitied because we are \_\_\_\_\_ our \_\_\_\_\_.

### **How can we know Jesus was raised from the dead? (vs.3-11)**

1. Jesus really \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The tomb was \_\_\_\_\_ after the third day.
3. Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ to many people after his resurrection.
4. The people who saw the Risen Jesus were \_\_\_\_\_.

*"No other explanations have been offered, in two thousand years of sneering skepticism... that can satisfactorily account for how the tomb came to be empty, how the disciples came to see Jesus, and how their lives and worldviews were transformed." -N.T. Wright*

### **How does Jesus' resurrection change our lives? (vs.20-22)**

1. Jesus' resurrection changes our \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Jesus' resurrection changes our \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Jesus' resurrection changes our \_\_\_\_\_.

Why does the Christian faith (and our lives) hinge on the historical truth of Jesus' resurrection? What are some reasons we might forget how important and significant the resurrection is?

Why do you think Paul would say that Christians are to be most pitied if the resurrection isn't true?

How does the truth of the Bible rise and fall on the truth of the resurrection?

If Jesus wasn't raised from the dead, how would your life be different? What would change for you?



*What gives you confidence that the resurrection of Jesus is true? How would you explain that confidence to someone who doesn't believe in the resurrection?*

*What other explanations might people give for the empty tomb, Jesus' appearances after his death, and the changed lives of the disciples? How do these explanations "fail to satisfactorily account for these events"?*

*What difference does Jesus' resurrection make in your life? What difference should it make in your life?*

*Think of a specific difficulty, struggle, or temptation you face currently. How should knowing Jesus has conquered death and is alive today help you in this area?*

*How can thinking about Jesus' resurrection give us hope in the midst of anything we might face in this life? What are some of the ways the resurrection personally gives you hope?*

#### Further Resources

- [I Believe in the Death of Julius Caesar and the Resurrection of Jesus Christ – Steve Bateman](#)
- [Why the Resurrection Matters – Sam Storms](#)