

# 1 Corinthians 42 – 15:19-28

## The Order of Resurrection

### 1. 15:19-22 - Christ the Firstfruits

- a. "if in this life only" – The great hope of the gospel is not this life – Col 3:2
- b. Christian suffering is misery without resurrection: 2 Cor 4:17, Rom 8:18, Phil 1:21
- c. Present labor becomes vain: Matt 10:21-25, Mark 8:35, 1 Cor 4:9, 1 Tim 6:10, 17-18
- d. Christ the firstborn from the dead – Acts 26:21-23, Col 1:15-18, Rev 1:5
- e. Not the first to be brought back from the dead: I King 17:22, Luk 7:12, John 11:43
- f. He took his own life back again – John 10:17-18
- g. 1 Cor 15:21-22 – This is a synopsis of Romans 5 and the "two Adams" doctrine

### 2. 15:23-24 – Every Man's Order

- a. Sadducees denied the resurrection, some Greeks as well – Acts 26:6-8
- b. People were dying, and they were not being resurrected - Acts 12:2, 1 Thess 4:13
- c. There is an order to the resurrection, not all at once: first fruits, harvest, gleanings
- d. First fruits = the first ripe fruit of the harvest – Exo 22:29, 23:15-17; Lev 23:22
- e. Note the timing words: "firstfruit", "afterward", "at his coming", "then", "till"
- f. The order: 1) Christ (past); 2) they that are Christ's; 3) then the end
- g. #2 - 1 Thess 4:13-18 also gives an order: 1) dead in Christ first; 2) those alive after
- h. #3 – Revelation 20:1-6 is the order of the resurrections in the end

### 3. 15:24-26 – Then Cometh the End

- a. "Kingdom now" diminishes the resurrection by spiritualizing /generalizing it
- b. If Revelation is yet future, then it is Christ who will bring in the kingdom.
- c. 15:25 "reign" = the literal millennial reign of Christ on the earth – Rev 20:1-5
- d. "he reigns, till" after the 1000 years when all things are subject - Rev 20:7-10
- e. 15:26 "last enemy" = death is destroyed at the "second death" - Rev 20:11-15
- f. At this point there is no more death, tears, pain – Rev 21:4
- g. This was all according to prophecy – Isa 25:8

### 4. 15:27-28 – All Things Under His Feet

- a. All things are put under Christ, excepting God because 1 Tim 3:16, Col 2:9-10
- b. His judgment requires resurrection Rom 2:16, 2 Tim 4:1, 2Thes 1:6, Acts 17:30-31
- c. We see his judicial position above all things – Eph 1:21-23
- d. Paul quotes Psalm 8:6, which is also quoted by Hebrews 2:2-9
- e. We do not yet see all things subdued under Christ – Heb 2:8, Col 1:18-20
- f. After death is destroyed comes the fullness of times – Eph 1:10, Rev 21:3-6
- g. The purpose of his exaltation is to bring glory to God – Phil 2:9-11, Rom 16:27
- h. If there is no resurrection, there is no judgment, no Head, no glory to God.