

I know how the story ends.





Hope has the final word.



A STUDY OF 1 CORINTHIANS

THE FACT OF THE RESURRECTION

1 Corinthians 15:1-34

1 Corinthians 15:1-2 ^{NIV}

Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. ² By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.



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1 Corinthians 15:3-7 ^{NIV}


For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, ⁴ that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, ⁵ and that he appeared to Cephas, and then to the Twelve. ⁶ After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷ Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles...



1 Corinthians 15:8-10a ^{NIV}

And last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born. ⁹ For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰ But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect.





“Saving faith is not a mere belief that Christ died for sinners,
but a personal trust that He died for you, and that in Him
alone your sins are forgiven.”

JOHNATHAN EDWARDS



1 Corinthians 15:8-11 ^{NIV}

And last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born.⁹ For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.¹⁰ But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me.¹¹ Whether, then, it is I or they, this is what we preach, and this is what you believed.



1 Corinthians 15:12 ^{NIV}


But if it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead?



1 Corinthians 15:13-19 ^{NIV}


If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁴ And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith. ¹⁵ More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God, for we have testified about God that he raised Christ from the dead. But he did not raise him if in fact the dead are not raised. ¹⁶ For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either. ¹⁷ And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins. ¹⁸ Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost. ¹⁹ If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.





“The entire Bible pivots on one weekend in Jerusalem about two thousand years ago. Attempts to make sense of the Bible that do not give prolonged thought to integrating the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus are doomed to failure, and are at best exercises in irrelevance.”

D.A. CARSON



“The resurrection is the truth on which everything else hinges. Without it Christian ministry is pointless, personal faith is ineffective, God’s character is called into question, Christians are still in need of salvation, any sense of future hope is removed, and our present experience is meaningless.”

STEPHEN UM
THE WORD OF THE CROSS



1 Corinthians 15:13-19 ^{NIV}

If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁴ And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith. ¹⁵ More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God, for we have testified about God that he raised Christ from the dead. But he did not raise him if in fact the dead are not raised. ¹⁶ For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either. ¹⁷ And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins. ¹⁸ Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost. ¹⁹ If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

IF NO RESURRECTION

Christ has not been raised (*Verse 13,16*)

Preaching has been in vain (*Verse 14*)

Your faith is in vain (*Verse 14*)


Misrepresentation of God (*Verse 15*)

You are still in your sins (*Verse 17*)

Those who have died in Christ are lost (*Verse 18*)

We are to be pitied (*Verse 19*)





“If Jesus rose from the dead, then you have to accept all that he said; if he didn’t rise from the dead, then why worry about any of what he said?”

TIM KELLER



1 Corinthians 15:20-26 ^{NIV}

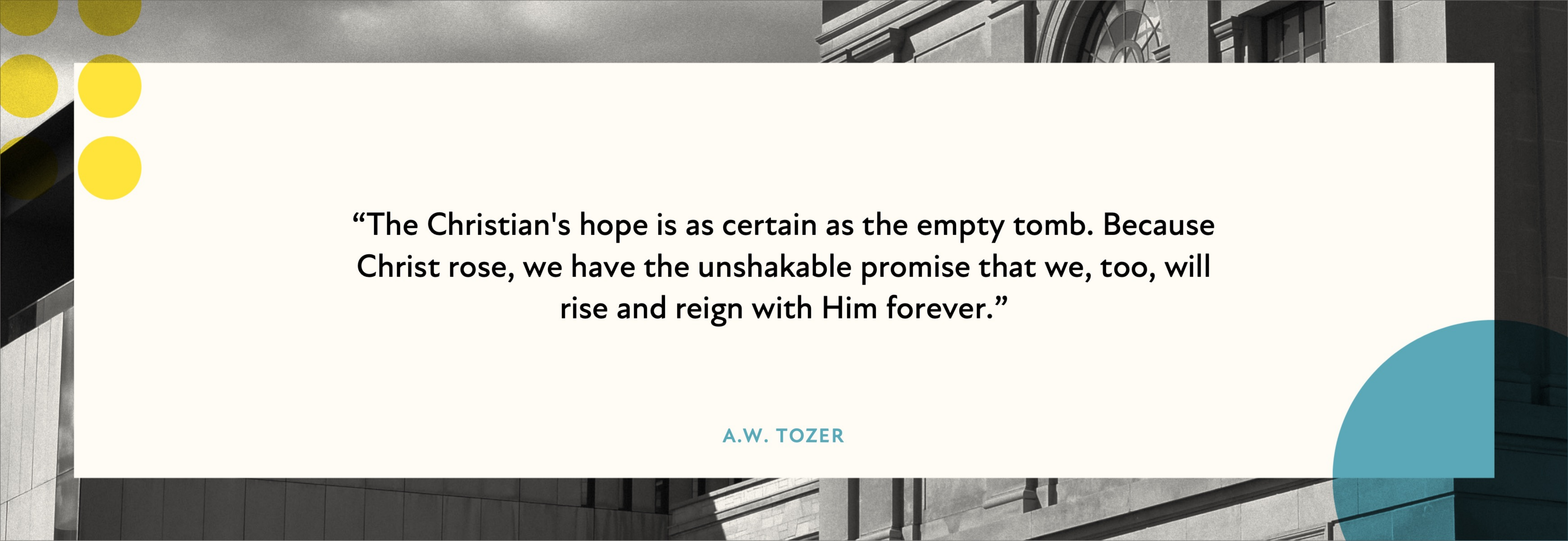
But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹ For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. ²² For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. ²³ But each in turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him. ²⁴ Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. ²⁵ For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶ The last enemy to be destroyed is death.



1 Corinthians 15:27-28 ^{NIV}

For he “has put everything under his feet.” Now when it says that “everything” has been put under him, it is clear that this does not include God himself, who put everything under Christ. ²⁸ When he has done this, then the Son himself will be made subject to him who put everything under him, so that God may be all in all.





“The Christian's hope is as certain as the empty tomb. Because Christ rose, we have the unshakable promise that we, too, will rise and reign with Him forever.”

A.W. TOZER

1 Corinthians 15:29 ^{NIV}

Now if there is no resurrection, what will those do who are baptized for the dead? If the dead are not raised at all, why are people baptized for them?



1 Corinthians 15:30-32 ^{NIV}

And as for us, why do we endanger ourselves every hour? ³¹ I face death every day—yes, just as surely as I boast about you in Christ Jesus our Lord. ³² If I fought wild beasts in Ephesus with no more than human hopes, what have I gained? If the dead are not raised, “Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die.”




1 Corinthians 15:30-34 ^{NIV}

And as for us, why do we endanger ourselves every hour? ³¹ I face death every day—yes, just as surely as I boast about you in Christ Jesus our Lord. ³² If I fought wild beasts in Ephesus with no more than human hopes, what have I gained? If the dead are not raised, “Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die.” ³³ Do not be misled: “Bad company corrupts good character.” ³⁴ Come back to your senses as you ought, and stop sinning; for there are some who are ignorant of God—I say this to your shame.






Hope has the final word.



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A.W. TOZER





“The hope of the Christian is not in escaping this world but in the renewal of it. The resurrection is the pledge that what was lost in the fall will be restored in glory.”

R.C. SPROUL

