

MESSAGE # 2: THE RESURRECTION LIFE IS A LIFE OF PEACE AND SERVICE

Biblical Passage: 1 Corinthians 15:1-10

I. Introduction to the Study:

The resurrection of the Lord was the capstone of theological evidence for the identification of the Son of God. It is the historical fact that gives us confidence and assurance and in the days of the apostles it was the certification that what they had witnessed was right and true. It had to them, and to us still has, a meaning that is more than just dogma in that it shows us the care of God and the precision of His work of deliverance. To the followers of Jesus in that day, as in ours, the resurrection tells of a life that is not limited by the grave or by mere human experience. The resurrection life is a life of peace in that it indicates a cessation of the war with death and it is a life of service in that it acquaints us with the will of God. Paul can think of his life as having been almost worthless but this truth of the Lord has given him meaning and a vital role in the lives of others. It is a life of peace: the hostilities are over. It is a life of service: the execution of the will of God is now our happy privilege. We experience the reality of this life after the pattern of the following points.

II. Discussion:

A. Allow His keeping

I have tried to think of an easier way to say this and so far have not done so----so I think it will have to stay that way. Paul knew that he was not fit to be called an apostle (v. 9) and did not "deserve" the place that the Lord gave him. But he knew the Lord's forgiveness and that gave him strength and reminded him of God's grace. The Lord would keep him in the face of trials, disappointments, and perverse situations. He would not be afraid or give up his witness for this is a life of peace and he would allow the Lord to keep him in that peace after the pattern of Philippians 4.

B. Accept His enrichment