

chapter 26:19-22. Many of our struggles come from a defiance of God's will...a fact in which we often make life hard for ourselves. But with the acceptance of His will there is a proper orientation to our lives that spells victory.

C. It is enjoyed by the participants of God's grace:

Note acts 26:29 in this connection and think for a bit of the fruit of Paul's ministry. Who would not be satisfied with such awarded success on one's witness? It is a triumph of grace that brings a satisfaction internal and before God. It does not mean that everything has worked out as we might have liked it but that all things have worked out as God has ordered and that is almost too much of a blessing to handle.

III. Conclusion: We do, from time to time, run into Christian who are not really satisfied with the life the Lord gives. Sometimes the appeal of the flesh or the world is "too great". While we cannot determine the cause of these defections we do know that a lack of commitment is a big thing. They cannot enjoy the blessing because they struggle against the One who secures everything for us. To be yielded to Him is basic and the beauty of it is that this resurrection life is in reality a life of commitment and blessing.

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MESSAGE # 4: THE RESURRECTION LIFE IS A LIFE OF HOPE AND WITNESS

Biblical passages: 1Corinthians 15, Acts 1:1-11

I. Introducing the Study:

The circumstances in Acts 1 reflect a common background with the Gospel accounts of the ascension of the Lord and the charge that He gave to His followers to be witnesses of Him. The charge is grounded on the fact that He promised to come again and the impetus given that by the heavenly messengers who assured the watchers of that day that He would come again...in like manner as they had witnessed Him depart. The return of the Lord is one of those realities that keeps us going, so to speak, and it is built on the fact of the resurrection as witnessed in 1 Corinthians 15..In