

HOW SHALL WE THEN LIVE?

1 Corinthians 15:58

Living in a fallen world means that we will have enemies, even if we are nice people. It happens. The Bible tells of the three greatest enemies: Sin, Satan, and Death.

When Jesus died on the cross as our substitute, and rose from the dead, He defeated all three. He was the Victor. It was God's victory, but a victory in which all of us as Christians are graciously allowed to share.

Paul concludes his "resurrection chapter" by exhorting us... if we really believe and are thankful that our resurrection is sure, we should prove it by the way we conduct ourselves.

TWO RESPONSES PROVING OUR GRATITUDE AND ASSURANCE IN SHARING IN THE COMING RESURRECTION.

For the day is coming when those who have died "in Christ" will be raised from their graves.

I. "Don't Move!" We Are To Be Immovable In Our Doctrinal Convictions.

A. Paul concludes with a "therefore." After reviewing this whole chapter he tells the Corinthian believers, based upon the reality of the resurrection, to be settled in their Biblical convictions.

1. He tells, "stand firm" (NIV) "be steadfast" (KJV)
Literally this means to be "seated," to be firmly situated. Don't get up!
2. Furthermore, to add more intensity he tells them "let nothing move you." (NIV), and "be immovable." (KJV) This means we are to be totally immobile and motionless.

B. Paul is telling us who have the assurance of resurrection, that we are to have a firm and unchangeable grasp upon this truth.

1. The Corinthian believers had been taught doctrinal truth but some were toying with moving on to other ways of thinking. (15:1, 12ff)
The pagan philosophy...the body is evil and is not to be resurrected.
2. We are to be firm and fixed in our convictions so that we are not "like children, tossed back and forth by the waves...blown here and there by every wind of doctrine." (Ephesians 4: 14) Don't move away from God's will and His Word.
Don't be enamored with "what's new?" Give yourself to knowing Truth.

C. Believers needed to be firmly fixed upon the doctrinal foundation of the Word. Don't move!

1. The inspiration of the Bible. (2 Timothy 3:16)
2. The divinity of Jesus. "Immanuel" (John 1:1) "The Word was God"
3. The substitutionary death of Jesus. "He was made sin for us..." (2 Corinth 5:21)

