



A STUDY OF 1 CORINTHIANS

THE FACT OF THE RESURRECTION

1 Corinthians 15:1-34



ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

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Smoke billows behind the Statue of Liberty as Tuesday after terrorists crashed two airplanes into the towers of the World Trade Center, bringing down both 110-story buildings.

**"NONE OF US WILL EVER
FORGET THIS DAY"**

THE FACT OF THE RESURRECTION

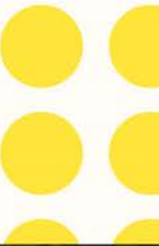
1 Corinthians 15:1-34

The Reminder

The Rejection

The Reality

The Reorienting Power



The Reminder

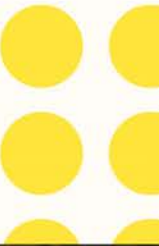
The Rejection

The Reality

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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.



The Reminder
The Rejection
The Reality
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1 Corinthians 15:3-8 ^{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, ⁸ and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born.



WITNESSES OF THE RESURRECTED JESUS

- Cephas
- The Twelve
- More than 500 Brothers & Sisters
- James
- All the Apostles
- Paul himself





“...the Jewish worldview made it inconceivable that a single person could be resurrected in the middle of history. It would have neither occurred to Jesus' disciples to make up such an idea nor to get other Jews to believe it if they did. It would have required some extraordinary, impossible-to-deny, powerful evidence to get first-century Jews to overcome all they had been taught and to believe that Jesus was the resurrected Son of God. According to 1 Corinthians 15, that is exactly what they received.”

Tim Keller, *Hope in Times of Fear*

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1 Corinthians 15:12-19 ^{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? ¹³ 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.



WITHOUT THE RESURRECTION

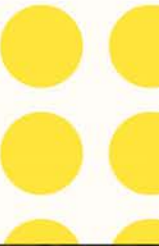
- Jesus was not raised
- Our preaching is useless
- Your faith is useless
- We are false witnesses about God
- Your faith is in vain and meaningless
- You are still dead in your sins
- Those who have died in Christ are lost
- Our hope is as temporary as this life



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1 Corinthians 15:20-22 ^{NIV}

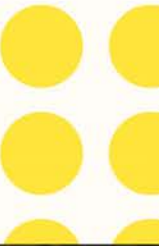
But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹ For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. ²² For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.



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1 Corinthians 15:23-28 ^{NIV}

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. ²⁷ 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.



WITHOUT THE RESURRECTION

Jesus was not raised
Our preaching is useless
Your faith is useless
We are false witnesses about God
Your faith is in vain and meaningless
You are still dead in your sins
Those who have died in Christ are lost
Our hope is as temporary as this life

WITH THE RESURRECTION

Jesus has been raised
Our preaching points to the truth
Your faith is grounded in reality
We truly know God
Your faith is doing something
Our sins are forgiven
Death is defeated
Our hope is in the world to come



The Reminder
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1 Corinthians 15:29-34 ^{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? ³⁰ 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.



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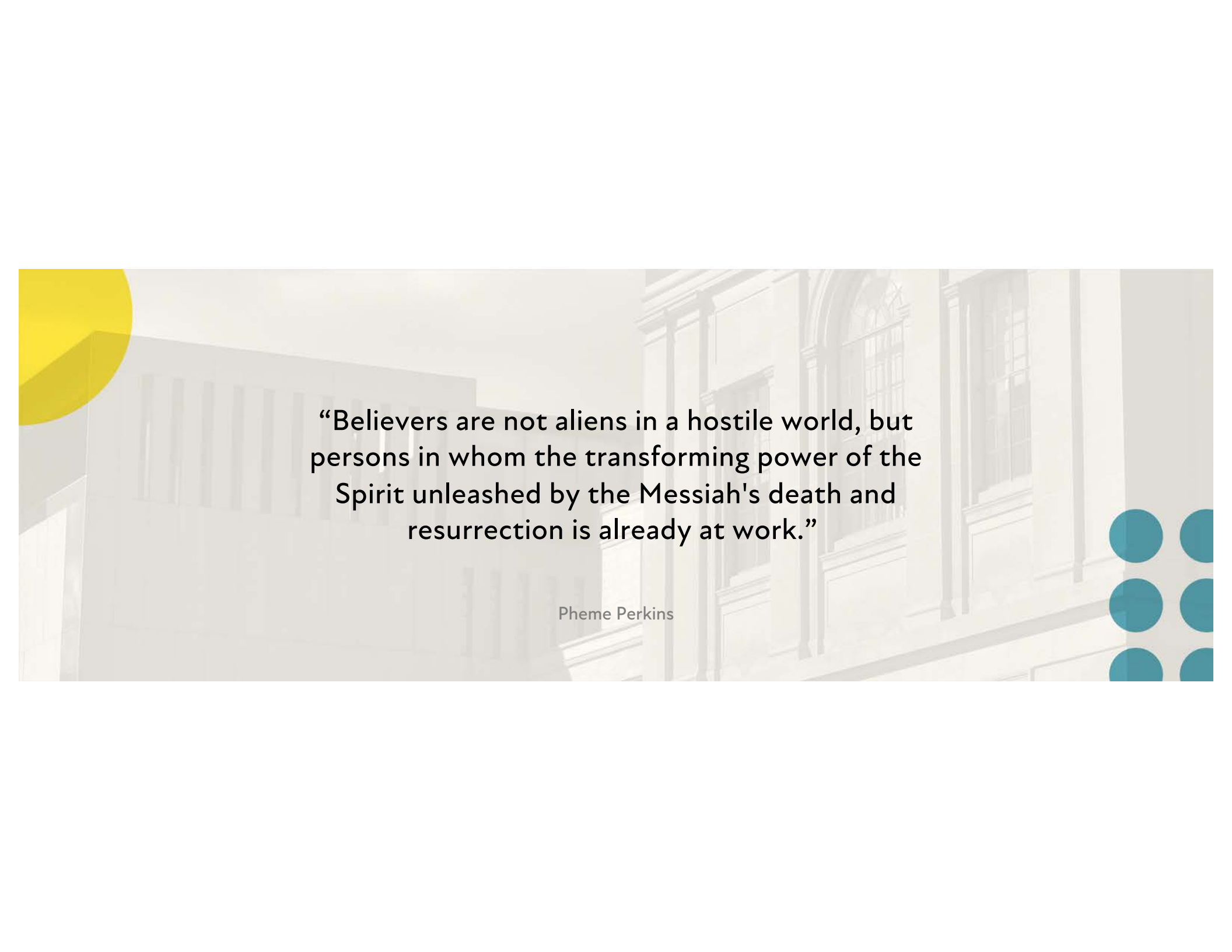
1 Corinthians 15:9-10 ^{NIV}

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.



The Resurrection enables and empowers
the hope of a resurrected life.





“Believers are not aliens in a hostile world, but persons in whom the transforming power of the Spirit unleashed by the Messiah's death and resurrection is already at work.”

PHEME PERKINS

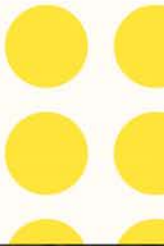
1 Corinthians 15:58 ^{NIV}

Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.



1 Corinthians 15:1-2 ^{NIV}

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COMMUNION

LEFT SIDE DOORS



PRAYER ROOM

RIGHT SIDE DOORS