

If There Is No Resurrection

*“If we have hoped in Christ in this life only,
we are of all men most to be pitied”
(1 Corinthians 15:19).*

Our Preaching is Without Purpose

- *“Our preaching is vain, and your faith is vain” (14).*
- *“We are found to be false witnesses of God” (15).*
- Everything we have learned about the Lord is useless.
- Our presence here today is meaningless!

Our Faith is Without Forgiveness

- *“Your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins” (17).*
- The death of the Lord accomplished nothing; we are sinners without hope of being saved.
- When He said, *“It is finished,”* it meant He was finished!
- Without forgiveness, we are without hope, lost!

Our Death is Without Deliverance

- *“Those who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost” (18).*
- When you fall asleep, you expect to wake up eventually.
- We anticipate in Heaven the reunion with those who have gone before, *“the Redeemed of the ages.”*
- But if Christ is not raised, we remain in the tomb forever.

Our Service is Without Significance

- *“If our hope is only in this life, we are to be pitied” (19).*
- If no resurrection, we are just fooling ourselves.
- We have no message, no reason for prayer, worship, Bible study, training, service, evangelism, benevolence.
- We have believed a lie and we have taught a lie!

“But Now ...”

- “... *Christ is risen from the dead*” (20).
- But now! *Up from the grave he arose,*
- But now! *With a mighty triumph o’er his foes.*
- But now! *He arose a victor o’er the dark domain,*
- But now! *And He lives forever, with His saints to reign!*
- But now! *He arose! He arose!*
Hallelujah! Christ arose!

Therefore

- *Our preaching has purpose,*
- *Our faith has forgiveness,*
- *Our death has deliverance,*
- *Our service has significance.*