

living out the **KINGDOM** **SPRING 2025**

Christ Over Death
June 15 | Stephanie Fehr

Main themes

- Unity
 - 1:10: "I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought."

1 Corinthians 15

- Main theological idea: resurrection of believers

1 Corinthians 15:1-11: the creed

- Reads like a creed: statement of faith, guiding principles
- vv.3-4: "...that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures..."
- "according to the Scriptures" - in fulfillment of prophecy
- Jesus' death and resurrection - key beliefs

1 Corinthians 15:1-11: the creed

- vv.5-8: “...and that he appeared to Cephas, and then to the Twelve. 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. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born.”
- Evidence of Jesus resurrection: witnesses

1 Corinthians 15:1-11: the creed

- vv.9-10: Paul’s troubled past and personal encounter with Christ
- God’s grace to Paul
- v.11: “this is what we preach” - communal belief
- This statement of belief is unifying

1 Corinthians 15:12-26: resurrection

- The Corinthians did believe Jesus was resurrected, but did not believe in the bodily resurrection of believers.
- To the Corinthians, to believe in bodily resurrection was crass and embarrassing

1 Corinthians 15:12-26: resurrection

- v.12: “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?”

1 Corinthians 15:12-26: resurrection

- We are intrinsically linked to Christ
 - We live in him (Romans 6:8), we function as the body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12) but are also in Christ and Christ is in us (Romans 12:5)
 - Romans 8: “Christ is in you...” (v.10), “And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.” (v.11)

1 Corinthians 15:12-26: resurrection

- We are intrinsically linked to Christ - so that what happens to Christ happens to us
- If... then:
 - IF Christ rose from the dead THEN we too will rise from the dead

1 Corinthians 15:12-26: resurrection

- vv.13-14: “If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith.”
- Jesus as the “firstfruits” (vv.20,21)
 - showing us a taste of what will be a grand scale harvest when “all will be made alive” (v.22)
- Death, the final enemy, will be destroyed (v.26)

1 Corinthians 15:51-57: the future

- The experience of the resurrection and what the resurrected bodies will be like
 - “We will be changed” (v.52) and be immortal (v.53)
- Quote from Hosea - V.55: “Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?”

1 Corinthians 15 - bodily resurrection

- We are embodied people
- Jesus' resurrected body
 - Jesus was recognizable (Gospel accounts, Acts)
 - Jesus ate/had meals (Luke 24, Acts 1)
 - Jesus had markings on his body (John 20)

Takeaways

- This passage gives us hope for the future and reminds us that death is not the end
- Confessing our faith together
 - We are connected to “a great cloud of witnesses” (Hebrews 11:1)
 - Nicene Creed and Apostles' Creed

Nicene Creed


We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

Nicene Creed

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.


Nicene Creed

Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate
from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.




Nicene Creed

For our sake he was crucified under
Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;




Nicene Creed

he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right
hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the
living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.



Nicene Creed

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord,
the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is
worshiped and glorified.



Nicene Creed

He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

