

Sermon Series – “Why I Believe”

Part 1 – “The Gospel of the Risen Christ”

Speaker: *Pastor Delthony L. Gordon* **Church:** *Beavercreek SDA – 05/22/2021*

Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

One of the biggest _____ many of us _____ face when in _____ with non-Christians, is knowing how to “answer,” i.e. defend, our faith in _____. By defend, we do not mean debate or engaging in _____, rather as the Bible _____ us, so should we do. 1 Peter 3:15 says:

“But in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give a *defense* to everyone who asks you the reason for the hope that is in you. But respond with *gentleness and respect.*” (Berean Study Bible)

While it is not our job to _____ people to Jesus, the words we _____ must be those that will bring _____, “rightly dividing the word of truth,” and leading people to the _____. As in Paul’s day, the _____ must meet _____ obstacles. So, let us consider his method as we study today.

The Corinthians and Christ Risen

1. On Paul’s way to _____, what challenge did he have in Athens? *Acts 17:32*
2. How did Paul _____ this special message to the Corinthians? *1 Cor. 15:1-4*
3. In addition to _____ who also saw Jesus after His resurrection? *v 5-8*
4. Why is our faith a lost _____ if there is no resurrection? *v 12-19*
5. To what lesson in _____ did Paul turn to explain the resurrection? *v 35-42*

By the casting of grain into the earth, the Saviour represents His sacrifice for us. “Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die,” He says, “it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit.” John 12:24. Only through the sacrifice of Christ, the Seed, could fruit be brought forth for the kingdom of God. In accordance with the law of the vegetable kingdom, life is the result of His death.

So with all who bring forth fruit as workers together with Christ: self-love, self-interest, must perish; the life must be cast into the furrow of the world’s need. But the law of self-sacrifice is the law of self-preservation. The husbandman preserves his grain by casting it away. So the life that will be preserved is the life that is freely given in service to God and man.

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May the Risen Christ live in your Heart that others may see!