

## **How Jesus Conquered Death 1 Corinthians 15:22-26**

### **Why does everyone die? (v.22)**

Because by nature and choice we have all sinned like Adam.

What is sin? God is a fountain of living water. We are created to have our heart-thirsts fully satisfied only in Him. Sin is when in our pride we refuse to kneel down and drink, and instead try to create our own water sources of power, sex, fame, entertainment.

Because we have sinned against God, God must punish us. Death is part of that punishment.

### **Does death mean the end? (vv.22-23)**

No. Because all who belong to Christ will be made alive after death.

We do not come to belong to Christ by being good or spiritual enough.

We belong to Christ by trusting Him to forgive us, change us, and satisfy us in Himself.

And because we belong to Christ, we can know that He will make us alive after death.

### **When does this happen? (vv.23-26)**

At Jesus' coming — when Jesus returns to earth at the end of history.

When He comes back His purpose will be to destroy every enemy that has rebelled against God's kingdom. So He will cast into eternal hell Satan, all his demons, and all people who have continued to rebel against Him.

But we who belong to Christ and have died will have had our souls separated from our bodies. But God wants this result of death destroyed.

So at the Second Coming God will raise us from the dead, joining our souls with our newly resurrected bodies.

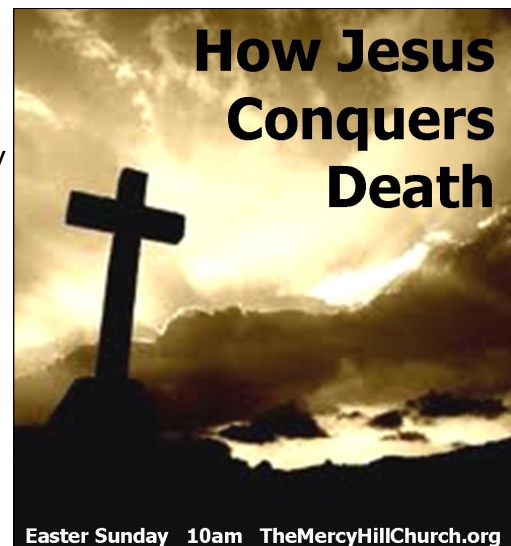
### **How can I be sure this will happen?**

Because Jesus is the first fruits — showing there will certainly be a harvest of resurrections.

Because there is massive historical evidence for Jesus' resurrection.

### **What does this mean for us?**

Be sure you belong to Christ.



## **HOME GROUP DISCUSSION OF SUNDAY'S TEACHING**

*(Sometimes in our home groups we talk about Sunday's teaching, so we can work together on responding to God's Word — asking questions, sharing insights, talking together.)*

What was the Holy Spirit saying to you Sunday through this passage?

What questions, ideas, objections, encouragements did you come away with?

Have you ever thought about why everyone dies? What reasons would you have given before studying 1 Cor 15? What reason would you give now?

What do you think it takes to belong to Christ? Do you belong to Christ? How can you tell?

How confident are you that Christ rose from the dead? What evidence is most persuasive to you? What doubts sometimes get in the way?

How are you living differently — knowing that you will certainly be raised from the dead?

What's your take-away from this message? What are you going to do differently? When? How?

Share prayer requests that come up in the discussion, jot them down below, and pray for each other.

