

1 CORINTHIANS

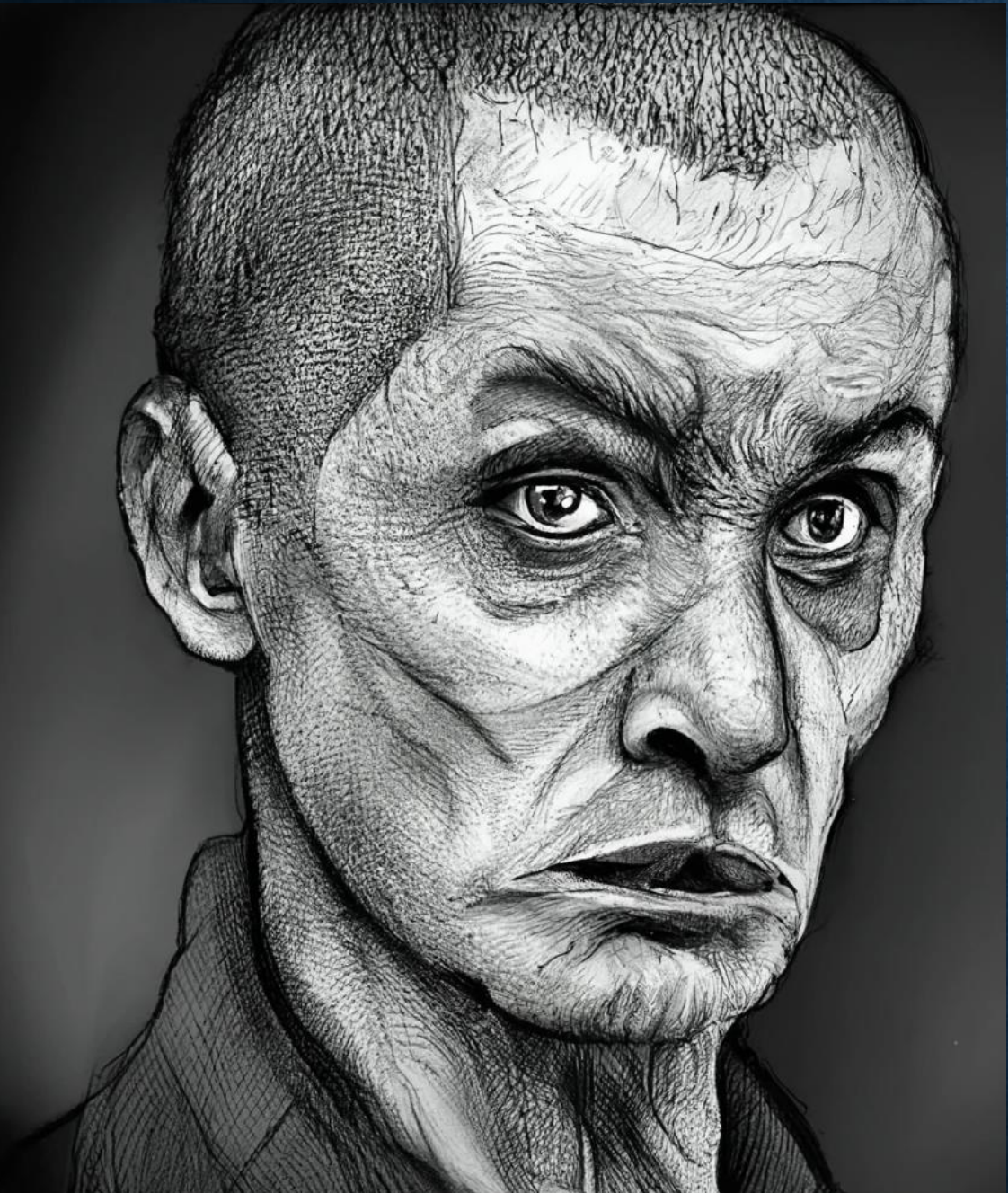
The Gospel
in Community

WHEN FAITH AND LIFE COLLIDE

Study 19

THE GOSPEL AND THE RESURRECTION PART 1

I Corinthians 15:1-34



THE MAIN ISSUE

1 Corinthians 15:12 (ESV)

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead?



MODERN DAY DENIERS

Paul, for example, writing between the years 50 and 64 or some 20 to 34 years after the earthly life of Jesus came to an end, never describes the resurrection of Jesus as a physical body resuscitated after death



MODERN DAY DENIERS

- Paul died, according to our best estimates, around the year 64 C.E. The first Gospel was not written until the early 70's. Paul never had a chance to read the Easter story in any Gospel



UNITARIAN CHURCH
OF LINCOLN

BELIEFS

- Jesus was a man, not God
- Jesus was not physically resurrected
- Jesus was a Jewish prophet with a mission of reconciliation
- Jesus was filled with divine inspiration
- Jesus' life is reflective of the divine potential in all of us



Richard Carrier

SPIRITUAL RESURRECTION

Ephesians 2:4-6 (ESV) But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, 5 even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— 6 and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,

THE PROOF OF THE RESURRECTION

- Faith in the Gospel

PROOF OF THE RESURRECTION THEIR FAITH IN THE GOSPEL

1 Corinthians 15:1-2 (ESV) Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand 2 and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.



**RESPONDING TO A
HISTORICAL EVENT
2ND SEPT 1945**

THE
JAPANESE
GOVERNMENT
PROMISES TO PAY THE BEARER
ON DEMAND

TEN DOLLARS

MN

10

10

10

日本南帝國政府





HIROO ONODA

THE GOSPEL CONTENT-EVENT EARLIEST KNOWN CREED

1 Corinthians 15:3-5 (ESV) For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, 4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, 5 and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.

THE GOSPEL CONTENT-EVENT

Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures,

4 that he was buried,

that he was raised on the third day

in accordance with the Scriptures,

5 and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.

Subst Historical fact

Aton John 2:19

Realit

So re Messianic psalm

sur Psalms 16:10 (ESV)

ag or you will not

aw abandon my soul to

Sheol,

or let your holy one

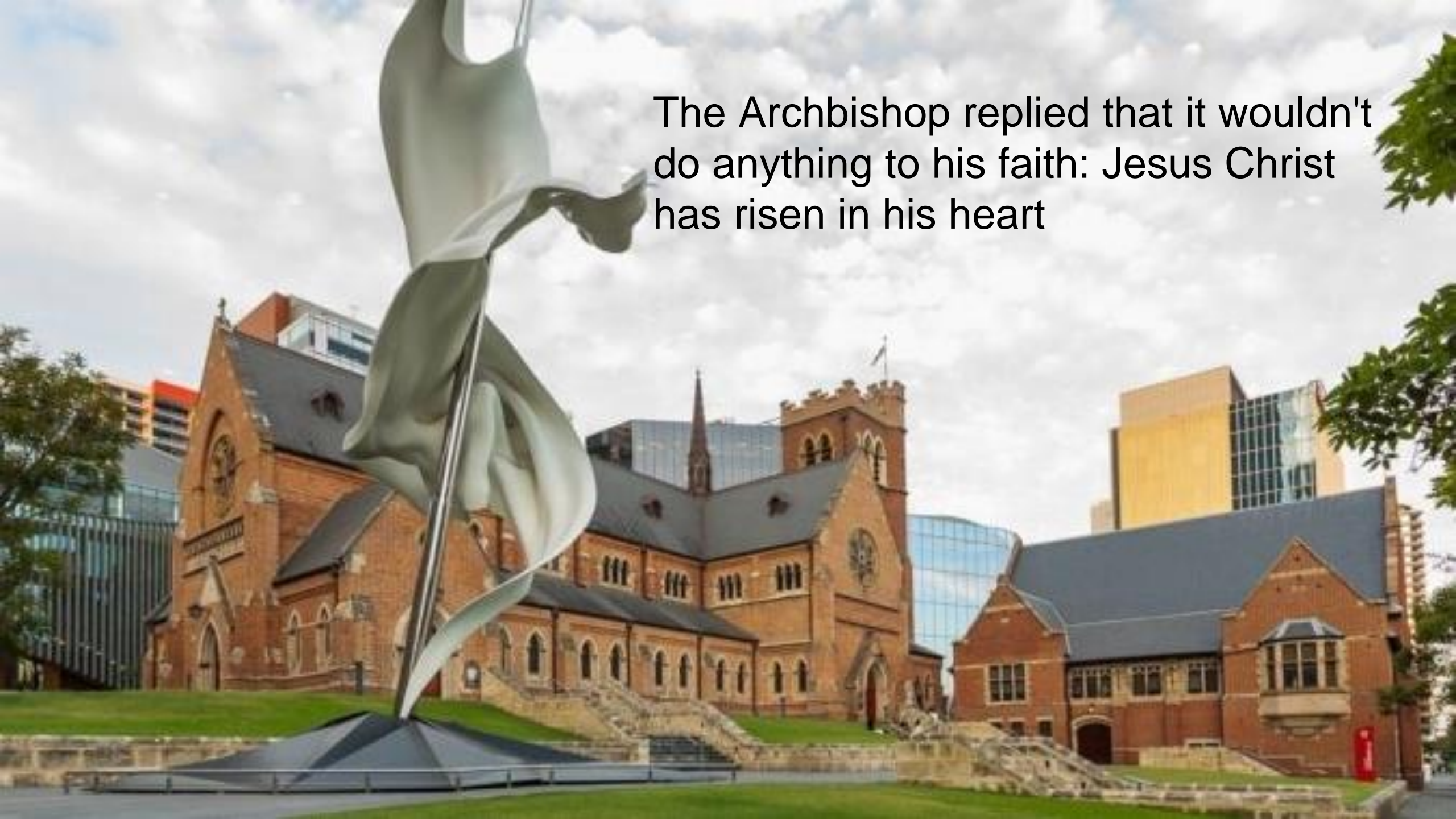
see corruption.

PROOF OF THE RESURRECTION THEIR FAITH IN THE HISTORICAL REALITY

1 Corinthians 15:1-2 (ESV) Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, 2 and by which you are being saved,

if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.

The Archbishop replied that it wouldn't do anything to his faith: Jesus Christ has risen in his heart



RELIGION



**Multi-faith
prayer room**

Personal subjective choice



GOSPEL FAITH

Objective Historical Truth

But we are not saved by
theological ideas about Christ;
we are saved *by Christ himself.*

PROOF OF THE RESURRECTION WITNESSES OF RESURRECTION-DISCIPLES

1 Corinthians 15:5-7 (ESV) and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. 6 Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep.

MINIMAL FACTS APPROACH TO THE RESURRECTION

GARY HABERMAS

Crucifixion of Jesus

Disciples witness and beliefs

Empty tomb

Paul's conversion

James conversion

Most plausible Explanation

Resurrection

Accepted by 75% of scholars

DISCIPLES WITNESS AND BELIEFS

Disciples and Paul's
writings

1 Cor 15
Gospels
Acts

Oral Tradition

1 Cor 15
Earliest Creed

Early church fathers

Clement
Polycarp
Ignatius
Tertullian

PROOF OF THE RESURRECTION JAMES CONVERSION

1 Corinthians 15:7 (ESV) Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles

- Mark 6:3 – 4 (NASB) “3 Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon? Are not His sisters here with us?” And they took offense at Him. 4 Jesus said to them, “A prophet is not without honor except in his hometown and among his own relatives and in his own household.”” –
- John 7:5 (NASB) “5 For not even His brothers were believing in Him” –

PROOF OF THE RESURRECTION PAUL'S CONVERSION

1 Corinthians 15:8-10 (ESV) Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. 9 For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy 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 toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me.

WHAT IS DISCIPLES STOLE THE BODY

Crucifixion of Jesus

Disciples witness and beliefs

Empty tomb

Paul's conversion

James conversion

Most
plausible
Explanation

Resurrection

WHAT IS DISCIPLES HALLUCINATED

Crucifixion of Jesus

Disciples witness and beliefs

Empty tomb

Paul's conversion

James conversion

Most
plausible
Explanation

Resurrection

WHAT IS AUTHORITIES STOLE THE BODY

Crucifixion of Jesus

Disciples witness and beliefs

Resurrection appearances
Empty tomb

Paul's conversion

James conversion

Most plausible Explanation

Resurrection

WHAT IF THEY WENT TO THE WRONG GRAVE

Crucifixion of Jesus

Disciples witness and beliefs

Resurrection appearances
Empty tomb

Paul's conversion

James conversion

Most plausible
Explanation

Resurrection

WHAT JESUS WAS RESUSCITATED

Crucifixion of Jesus

Disciples witness and beliefs

Empty tomb

Paul's conversion

James conversion

Most
plausible
Explanation

Resurrection

WHY RESURRECTION IS CENTRAL TO OUR FAITH

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graph TD; A[WHY RESURRECTION IS CENTRAL TO OUR FAITH] --> B[Argument from the negative]; A --> C[Argument from the positive];
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Argument from
the negative

Argument from
the positive

IF THERE IS NO RESURRECTION APOSTLES ARE LIARS-CHARACTER WITNESS

1 Corinthians 15:13-16 (ESV) But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. 14 And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. 15 We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. 1

IF THERE IS NO RESURRECTION THEIR FAITH IS IN VAIN

1 Corinthians 15:16-19 (ESV) For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. 17 And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. 18 Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. 19 If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied.

WHY RESURRECTION IS CENTRAL TO OUR FAITH



Argument from
the negative



Argument from
the positive

WHY THE RESURRECTION MATTERS

FIRST FRUITS

1 Corinthians 15:20-23 (ESV) 20 But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. 21 For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. 22 For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. 23 But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ.

A close-up photograph of a person's hands holding a large bunch of dark, ripe grapes. The person is wearing a light blue, short-sleeved button-down shirt. The background is blurred, suggesting an outdoor setting. A red rectangular box is overlaid on the center of the image, containing the text "Guarantee by faith" in white, sans-serif font.

Guarantee by faith



ANALOGY

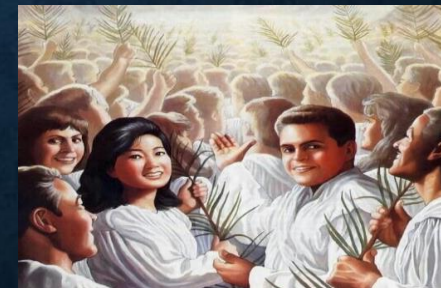
Resurrection effected the reversal of the process begun in Adam, is equally inevitable



Believers' share in resurrection in their union with second Man, Christ



We share in the humanity and sinfulness of Adam



WHY THE RESURRECTION MATTERS IT IS THE ONLY WAY DEATH IS DEFEATED

1 Corinthians 15:24-27 (ESV) Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every 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.

WHY THE RESURRECTION MATTERS IT IS EVIDENCE OF GOD'S DECISIVE VICTORY IN CHRIST

1 Corinthians 15:27-28 (ESV) For "God has put all things in subjection under his feet." But when it says, "all things are put in subjection," it is plain that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him. 28 When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all.

Christ subject to God

Christ's resurrection

All subject to Christ

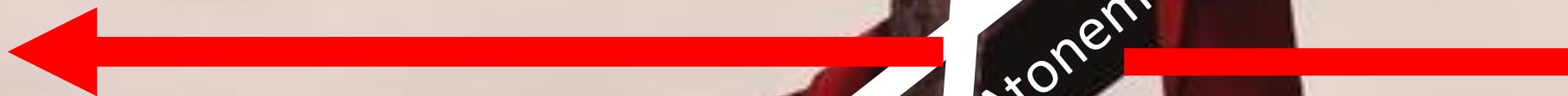
Our resurrection

Defeat of evil



THREE DIMENSIONS OF GOSPEL WISDOM

Resurrection/forward-back.



Incarnation/upside-down



Atonement/inside-out



HOW DOES THE RESURRECTION MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE WAY WE LIVE?

Negative implications

BAPTISM OF THE DEAD

1 Corinthians 15:29 (ESV) Otherwise, what do people mean by being baptized on behalf of the dead? If the dead are not raised at all, why are people baptized on their behalf?

baptism for the sake of (ὑπέρ) the dead

person ask for baptism as a result of the desire to be united with their believing relatives who have died

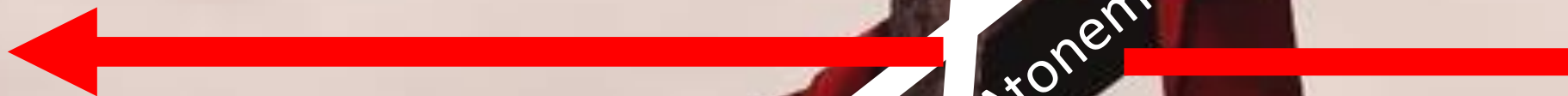
Presupposes confidence in resurrection fits context

WILLINGNESS TO ENDURE

1 Corinthians 15:30-32 (ESV) Why are we in danger every hour? 31 I protest, brothers, by my pride in you, which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die every day! 32 What do I gain if, humanly speaking, I fought with beasts at Ephesus? If the dead are not raised, "Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die."

THREE DIMENSIONS OF GOSPEL WISDOM

Resurrection/forward-back.



Incarnation/upside-down



Atonement/inside-out



A medieval army of knights on horseback is marching along a dirt path towards a large, imposing stone castle. The knights are wearing chainmail and helmets, and some are carrying flags. The castle has multiple towers and battlements, and the surrounding landscape is dry and hilly.

World view

How we see suffering and pain in the world
Not fatalistic

Realistic

Eternal security

Hope beyond death
Willingness to sacrifice

Confident

Part of the victorious team

Privilege of playing a role making a difference
Making use of our time and our lives

Sacrificial

God is supremely glorified

He is most worthy to be worshipped

Joyful

DESIRE FOR HOLINESS

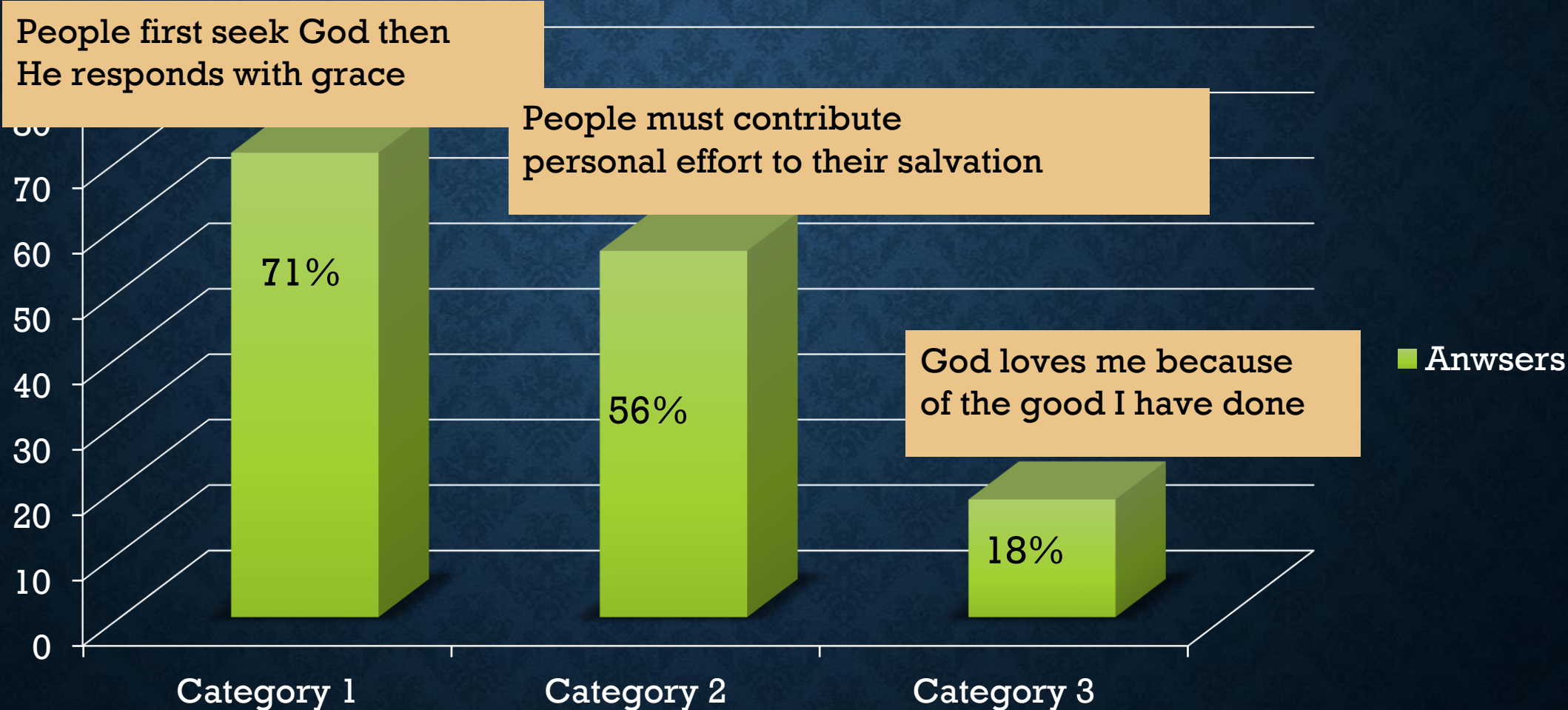
**1 Corinthians 15:33-34 (ESV) Do not be deceived:
“Bad company ruins good morals.” 34 Wake up from
your drunken stupor, as is right, and do not go on
sinning. For some have no knowledge of God. I say this
to your shame.**

THE CHALLENGE OF GRACE

1 Corinthians 15:9-11 (ESV) For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy 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 toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. 11 Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

LIFEWAY RESEARCH POLL

Answers



THE CHALLENGE OF PAUL

Awareness of what wretched state he is in

1 Corinthians 15:9-11 (ESV) For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I pers

Awareness of what undeserved blessing God has done for him

10 But by the grace of God I am what I am,

and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the

cont this is empowered by grace

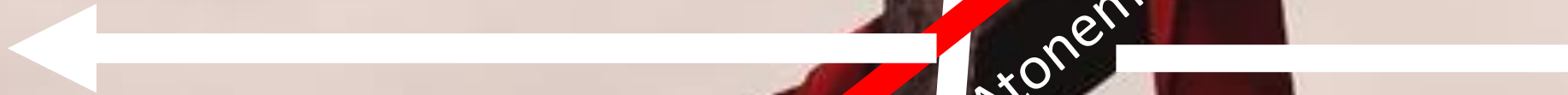
The result of Grace...motivation to work yet realizing even

it

was not I, but the grace of God that is with me.

THREE DIMENSIONS OF GOSPEL WISDOM

Resurrection/forward-back.



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Atonement/inside-out



THE CHALLENGE OF RESURRECTION

1 Corinthians 15: 11 Whether then
it was I or they, so we preach and
so you believed.