

Reactions to the Resurrection  
Matthew 28:1-15

Review:

1. Some people, like the chief priests and elders, reject the resurrection of Jesus because they don't want to give up their autonomy to Christ the King
2. Others, like the women at the tomb, rejoice at the resurrection of Jesus because they are devoted to Him, worshipping Him as their God and King
3. Our relationship to Christ determines the reaction we have to His resurrection.

Reflect:

1. Of the two reactions to the resurrection of Christ in today's passage, which is most similar to yours? What evidence does your life provide either for your proud autonomy or for your worshipful devotion?

Go Further: Read I Corinthians 15:1-26

1. In verse 1, what message does Paul say he has preached to the Corinthians? How does Paul describe their reaction to it?
2. In verse 2, what effect does Paul say his message has? What do his listeners have to do in order for the message to have this effect?
3. In verse 3, what does Paul say is of first importance? How did he learn the truth he preached?
4. In verse 4, what does Paul say happened to Jesus after He died?
5. In verses 5-7, Paul lists many eyewitnesses to the Resurrection. Why is their testimony so important for us today?
6. Some "scholars" suggest that those who saw Christ alive after His crucifixion were simply victims of a mass hallucination or engaging in wish fulfillment. How do verses 5-8 make that explanation impossible?
7. To whom does Paul say in verse 8 that Jesus appeared?
8. Why does Paul say in verse 9 that he did not deserve to be called an apostle?
9. How does Paul say his life has been transformed in verses 10 and 11? What caused this change?
10. What reason do verses 14 and 17 give for why the Resurrection of Christ is so important for us?
11. Why does verse 15 say that the truth of the Resurrection is critical for us to be able to believe anything in the Bible?
12. If there is no resurrection from the dead, what does Paul say in verse 18 must also be true?
13. What comparison does Paul make between Jesus and Adam in verses 21 and 22?
14. When does verse 23 say that those who belong to Christ will also be raised from the dead?
15. In verses 24-26, what enemies does Paul say Christ will destroy?

Apply:

1. How does the change in Paul's life give us reason to believe in the truth of Christ's Resurrection?
2. How does the witness of the apostles to the life, death, and resurrection of Christ help to build your faith in Him?
3. How does remembering the great facts of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection make a difference in your life today?