

1 CORINTHIANS: LESSON 42

Chapter 15: The Gospel, According to the Scriptures

23 March 2018

The Bible says “**Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures.**” Today we’ll examine the scriptures that were available to the saints before there was a New Testament and observe that the gospel was being proclaimed from the beginning.

Off-Subject Incidental Notes:

- Vs 3** To believe in vain (to believe nothing) means that you never believed the gospel to begin with, therefore you were never saved.
- Vs 5** The resurrected Jesus was seen “**of the twelve.**” The twelve apostles that saw Jesus included Matthias (Acts 1:26). Those who reject Matthias as an apostle must also reject 1 Corinthians 15:5.
- 5-8** Eyewitness verification of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ exceeded 500 brethren. Many well know accounts of other historical events are accepted as “fact,” even though the eyewitnesses numbered much less than 500. Under the Law, 2 to 3 witnesses were sufficient to make a judgment (Deuteronomy 19:15, Matthew 18:16)
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Refuting the Paul-Only Devotees

Hyper-dispensationalists, Grace-Believers, Grace Brethren, etc. teach that only Paul’s writings should be read, studied, and taught in the churches since Paul received special revelation from God, giving him insights that separated his writings from all the other scriptures. Some groups only adhere to Paul’s prison epistles (Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, Philemon).

It is foolish to eliminate any part of the Bible as being non-relevant. In fact, 80% of what Paul wrote can be found in the Old Testament.

The church at Corinth didn’t have any New Testament Scriptures in their possession. When Paul wrote the letter to the Corinthians, he didn’t know it would become New Testament Scripture.

When Paul wrote “**Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures,**” he was telling us that the Old Testament scriptures foretold this very gospel in advance.

THE DEATH (1 Corinthians 15:3):

Abel sacrificed an innocent lamb in Genesis 4:4

An innocent lamb was slain on Passover night in Exodus 12.

An innocent lamb was offered in 1 Samuel 7:9 to give the Israelites victory over their enemy.

THE BURIAL AND RESURRECTION (1 Corinthians 15:4):

God brought light out of darkness in Genesis 1:1-2

God brought life out of death in Ezekiel 37:5

Job spoke of resurrection from the dead in Job 19:26

Hosea 6:2 speaks of Israel being resurrected from the dead.

JESUS ON THE ROAD TO EMMAUS (Luke Chapter 24)

1-2 The dead body of Jesus was not found in the tomb.

13-27 The resurrected Jesus Christ met two disciples walking from Jerusalem to Emmaus. He concealed His identity during this time. They told Jesus they were sad because Jesus of Nazareth, whom they thought to be their redeemer, had been crucified and was now missing from the tomb where they laid Him.

The Lord reminded them that the prophets said He would suffer and be resurrected (vs 26). Then He took them on a tour through the Old Testament scriptures and showed them how every page spoke of Him (vs 27).

44-46 Jesus fulfilled “all things” which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms. It was necessary for Him to suffer, and to rise from the dead in order to fulfill prophecy and redeem mankind. The Gospel was always in the Old Testament, but it was revealed in the New Testament.

JOHN 5:39 Jesus said the scriptures (O.T.) testify of Him and teach you about eternal life.

2 TIM 3:14-15 As a small child, Timothy had the scriptures that could make him “**wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus**” because the gospel is in the Old Testament Scriptures.

1 PET 1:9-11 The Old Testament prophets testified of the grace that would come to the New Testament believers—through “**the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow.**”

Acts 8:26-37 Philip preached Jesus (vs 35) from the book of Isaiah to the Ethiopian eunuch.

Acts 10:39-43 Peter Preached the gospel before Paul ever wrote a letter (vss 39-40). He told Cornelius that the Old Testament prophets witnessed “**that through his name** (the name of Jesus), **whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins.**” Salvation comes through simple belief in God’s Messiah. So sayeth the scriptures!

“**The Law was a schoolmaster to bring us to Christ**” (Gal 3:24). Why? Because the Law couldn’t save anybody!

Acts 17:1-3 When Paul preached in the synagogues, he used the Old Testament scriptures to teach “**that Christ must needs have suffered, and risen again from the dead.**”

Rev. 19:10 “**The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.**” The spirit that can be found in all prophecy is that it testifies of Jesus Christ.