

Easter Sunday

April 16, 2017

Finding Hope

1 Cor 15:3-20 (NLT)

³ I passed on to you what was most important and what had also been passed on to me. Christ died for our sins, just as the Scriptures said. ⁴ He was buried, and he was raised from the dead on the third day, just as the Scriptures said. ⁵ He was seen by Peter and then by the Twelve. ⁶ After that, he was seen by more than 500 of his followers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. ⁷ Then he was seen by James and later by all the apostles. ⁸ Last of all, as though I had been born at the wrong time, I also saw him.

The historical authenticity of Paul's letter helps us establish that Jesus is the real deal!!

¹² But tell me this—since we preach that Christ rose from the dead, why are some of you saying there will be no resurrection of the dead? ¹³ For if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised either. ¹⁴ And if Christ has not been raised, then all our preaching is useless, and your faith is useless. ¹⁵ And we apostles would all be lying about God—for we have said that God raised Christ from the grave. But that can't be true if there is no resurrection of the dead. ¹⁶ And if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised. ¹⁷ And if Christ has not been raised, then your faith is useless and you are still guilty of your sins. ¹⁸ In that case, all who have died believing in Christ are lost! ¹⁹ And if our hope in Christ is only for this life, we are more to be pitied than anyone in the world. ²⁰ But in fact, Christ has been raised from the dead. He is the first of a great harvest of all who have died.

Without the _____, the _____ doesn't mean a thing!!

The empty grave also authenticates the _____ of Jesus' entire ministry!

John 11:25 (NLT) ²⁵ Jesus told her [Martha], "I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying.

We can be people _____ to be difference-makers!!

NLT John 14:6 Jesus told him [Thomas], "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me."

"I am the way" ...

"I am the truth" ...

"I am the life" ...

"God, _____ for making a way to You!"

God's character is not _____ ... it's _____!

God came to show us that He loves us and will make a way for us to find hope and purpose!

What I _____ today impacts my _____!

Happy Easter all year long! ☐ ☐