

He's Alive

Wylie Methodist Church

Pastor Jeff Hatcher – April 9, 2023 (Easter)

1 Corinthians 15:1-8, 12-20

1 Now, brothers, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. 2 By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain. 3 For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, 5 and that he appeared to Peter, and then to the twelve. 6 After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. 7 Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, 8 and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born. 9-11... 12 But if it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? 13 If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. 14 And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith. 15 More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God, for we have testified about God that he raised Christ from the dead. But he did not raise him if in fact the dead are not raised. 16 For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either. 17 And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins. 18 Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost. 19 If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are to be pitied more than all men. 20 But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

Jesus is Alive, and that proves...

1. JESUS IS WHO HE CLAIMS TO BE & HAS THE POWER HE CLAIMS TO HAVE

John 10:30

"I and the Father are one."

John 10:18

"No one takes [my life] from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down and power to take it up again."

Romans 1:4

[Jesus] was declared with power to be the Son of God by his resurrection from the dead.

Jesus is Alive, and that proves...

2. HE DOES WHAT HE PROMISES TO DO

Matthew 20:18-19

18... [Jesus said] "We are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and the teachers of the law. They will condemn him to death and will turn him over to the Gentiles to be mocked and flogged and crucified. On the third day he will be raised to life!"

Matthew 28:5-6

The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said."

Jesus is Alive, and that proves...

3. YOUR PAST CAN BE FORGIVEN & YOUR FUTURE CAN BE SECURE

Colossians 2:13-14

13 When you were dead in your sins... God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, 14 ... he took it away, nailing it to the cross.

Revelation 3:5

"He who overcomes will ... be dressed in white. I will never blot out his name from the book of life, but will acknowledge his name before my Father and his angels."

John 11:25

"I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die."