

SERMON: **What if Christ Did *Not* Rise?**

SCRIPTURE: 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

SPEAKER: Michael P. Andrus

DATE: April 5, 2026

**Introduction:** The Apostle Paul was not only a great missionary and preacher; he was also a splendid debater and apologist for Christianity. At Corinth he took on the skeptics of his day and demonstrated through the effective use of nine negative arguments that the resurrection of Christ is essential to the Christian faith.

**If Christ did not rise ... the following conclusions are unavoidable:**

1. The Gospel is emptied of its value. (14)
2. The faith of Christians is a sham. (14)
3. Christian preachers, teachers and witnesses are guilty of perjury. (15)
4. Christians' faith is worthless because their sins remain unforgiven. (17)
5. Dead Christians have perished eternally. (18)
6. Christians are, of all people, most to be pitied. (19)
7. Baptism for the dead is inconsistent. (29)

8. Enduring unnecessary persecution is irrational. (30-32)

9. Everyone should “go for the gusto” while there is time. (32)

***But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead (20), so none of these conclusions is valid.***