

Easter Sunday  
He Is Risen  
1 Corinthians 15:12-22, 53-57

[Sam Bowie, Redwood Canopy Tour examples]

- I. The Resurrection of Jesus Christ: Did it happen?
  - Disciples/Apostles believed, said so, and acted accordingly
    - Bono quote from interview with Ireland's RTE One in June, 2013: "[Jesus] went around saying he was the Messiah. That's why he was crucified. He was crucified because he said he was the Son of God. So, he either, in my view, was the Son of God or he was nuts. Forget rock-and-roll messianic complexes, I mean Charlie Manson-type delirium. And I find it hard to accept that whole millions and millions of lives, half the Earth, for 2,000 years have been touched, have felt their lives touched and inspired by some nutter. I just, I don't believe it."
  - Outside sources support their words/actions/beliefs
    - Paul, Pre-NT oral tradition, Other written sources
  - Opposing theories are much weaker
    - Disciples' fraud, hallucinations/delusions, revival from coma, legend developed over time
    - Cookie jar example
  
- II. If not, the results (verses 12-19)
  - Jesus Christ is still dead
  - Preaching in vain
  - Faith in vain
  - False witnesses of God
  - Faith is worthless
  - Still under the penalty of sin
  - Death separates us from God
  - We are to be pitied
  
- III. If so, the results (verses 20-22, 53-57)
  - Jesus Christ is alive
  - He leads us in resurrected life
  - We will be made alive with God forever
  - Our bodies will last forever
  - Our bodies will be immortal
  - Death loses
  - Death has no sting
  - We win through Jesus Christ
  
- IV. If so, my response
  - Recognize Jesus Christ's death and resurrection are both required to save me (cf Romans 4:25 (NLT) - He was handed over to die because of our sins, and he was raised to life to make us right with God.)
  - Trust Jesus Christ alone to save me and make me right with God (cf 2 Corinthians 5:21 (NLT) - For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ.)