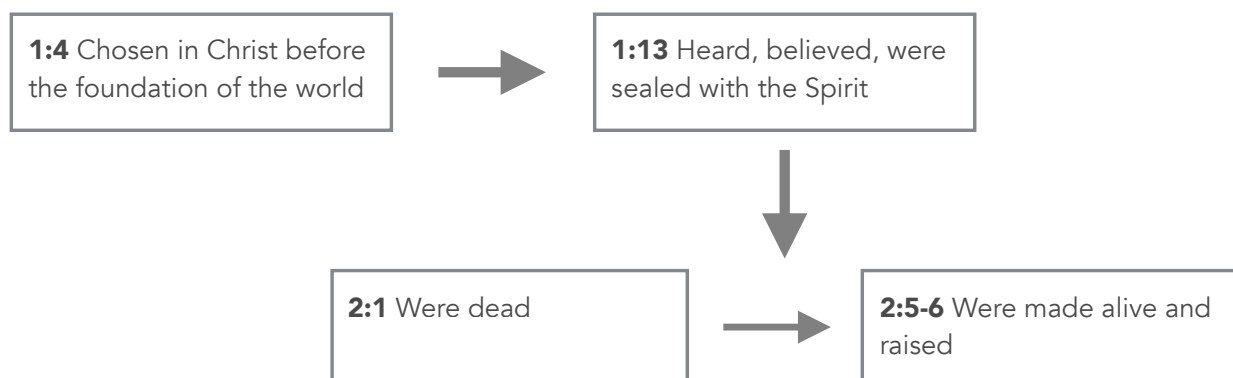


## Our Resurrection Hope

### 1. Introduction

### 2. Setting the scene: the difficulty of living with a living hope

- a. Three inextricably linked things
  - i. The resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ
  - ii. The future resurrection of those in him
  - iii. The past resurrection of those in him
  
- b. The resurrection of Jesus and the future resurrection of the believer
  - 1 Cor 15:20
  - John 12:24
  
- c. The resurrection of Jesus and the past resurrection of the believer
  - e.g. Ephesians



- d. The complexities of resurrection life in a body heading for death
  
- e. The nature of hope
  - Heb 11:1
  - Romans 8:24

### 3. The Corinthians and the resurrection

a. What the chapter is not about

b. What it is about

- The presenting issue                      The resurrection of believers
- The underlying issue                      Which pattern of ministry to imitate  
    See 1:5-7, 4:8-13

Both these issues run all the way through chapter 15

c. The shape of the chapter

1-11	Introduction	Notice how much of it is about Paul's ministry
12-34	Phase 1	Begins with a question about resurrection Ends with a rebuke
35-58	Phase 2	Begins with a question about resurrection Ends with an encouragement

### 4. The argument of chapter 15

a.. The introduction (1-11)

- You believed our message (1-2, 11).
- Christ died for our sins, and was raised.
- Some of the witnesses have fallen asleep.
- God's grace towards me was "not in vain".

b. How can some of you say ...? (12-34)

- Your current way of thinking is pitiable (12-19)
- Only in the future will everything look glorious (20-28)
- Do you really think other Christians are totally stupid? (29-32)
- Don't be deceived, wake up! (33-34)

- c. How are the dead raised? (35-58)
  - i. Three foundational ideas in God's world (36-41)
    - Death often leads to life (36)
    - The end is often unlike the beginning (37-38)
    - Not all created things are the same (38-41)
  - ii. These apply to the resurrection (42-49)
    - Dead bodies are raised (42-44)
    - The body to come will be quite unlike the body that dies (42-44)
    - Not all men are the same (46-49)
  - iii. So those who belong to Christ will have two different futures (49-50)
    - A future from "the first man" (death)
    - A future from "the last man" (resurrection)
    - It won't be this-world-flesh-and-blood that inherits the kingdom of God!
  - iv. How will resurrection happen then? (51-57)
    - It will happen at the last day
    - It will happen instantaneously
    - Only then
      - will death be seen to be defeated (54-55)
      - will the tyranny of sin, law and death be broken (56-57)
  - v. So get on with the work of the Lord, the one thing that death won't destroy (58)

## 5. Reflections