

### Introduction - "Bumper Sticker Theology"

What we believe is actually pretty hard stuff!

If you want to disprove Christianity,  
what can you go after:

GOD  
BIBLE  
RESURRECTION OF JESUS

### This week: The Dire Consequences of Denying the Resurrection of the Dead (1 Corinthians 15:12-19)

1. Open Hand Issues and Closed Hand Issues  
1 Corinthians 15:12

2. The Downward Logical Spiral  
1 Corinthians 15:13-18

- a. No Resurrection
- b. Christ is not raised
- c. Preaching (Message) is useless
- d. Your faith is useless
- e. Paul and others are false witness
- f. Faith is futile
- g. You are still in your sins
- h. Those who have died are lost

3. The Ultimate Conclusion  
1 Corinthians 15:19

"At least I lived a good life"

Pascal's Wager

### Application - "What if it IS true?"

### 1 Corinthians 15:12-19

<sup>12</sup>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? <sup>13</sup>If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. <sup>14</sup>And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith. <sup>15</sup>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. <sup>16</sup>For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either. <sup>17</sup>And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins. <sup>18</sup>Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost. <sup>19</sup>If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are to be pitied more than all men.

### 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

<sup>1</sup>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. <sup>2</sup>By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain. <sup>3</sup>For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, <sup>4</sup>that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, <sup>5</sup>and that he appeared to Peter, and then to the Twelve. <sup>6</sup>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. <sup>7</sup>Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, <sup>8</sup>and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born. <sup>9</sup>For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. <sup>10</sup>But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them - yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me. <sup>11</sup>Whether, then, it was I or they, this is what we preach, and this is what you believed.