

Title: OUR HOPE, LUKE 20:27-40; 24:21-27; 1 CORINTHIANS 15:5-8, 14-20
(Chatham, NJ; 11/10/13, AM) [Pd – Topical]

Theme: Though it seemed far-fetched to the early disciples, the church believes Jesus rose from the dead and now sets its hopes on a day when all the saints will rise from the dead to live eternally.

Purpose: To remind us of our common hope for eternal life and to encourage us to keep living for that one, great day.

I. The Resurrection? Really? Luke 20:27-30

- People then as well as today say, “The Resurrection? Really?”
- Sadducees didn’t believe in a resurrection though it was an Old Testament idea
- Ps. 16:10 (not abandon to Sheol)
- 23:6 (dwell forever)
- 30:3 (my soul from Sheol)
- Ecclesiastes 3:11 – eternity in our hearts
- The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, 37-38; he is God of the living
- Luke 18:31-34, the disciples didn’t grasp Jesus’ prediction
- I’ll raise this Temple, John 2:18-22
- Some philosophers scoffed while others were intrigued, Acts 17:32
- Yes, really! There is a resurrection.

Song: I Am Thine (Christian) 666-E

II. Slow of Heart, Luke 24:21-27

- Two disciples hear reports of the resurrection
- They had hoped Jesus was the Messiah, 19-23
- They were “Slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken!” 25
- Yet their hearts burned as he explained Scripture to them, 32
- Our souls have a yearning that only God can fill (“Solitary Refinement”)
- We saw him on the road, 35
- Their excitement could not be contained
- Life after death became attainable
- We should not be slow to believe it

Song: Blessed Assurance (James) 480-E

III. First Importance, 1 Corinthians 15:3-8, 14-20

- Primary things: death, burial, and resurrection, 3-4
- Many witnesses, 5-8
- Including Paul on the road to Damascus
- This can be doubted but their testimony cannot be refuted
- Our faith is vain without the Resurrection
- But “Christ has been raised from the dead,” 20
- A true and certain teaching of our Christian faith
- By it we can say, “Death has been swallowed up in victory,” 54
- We live for this above all else

Song: Amazing Grace (Floyd) 129-E