

The Big IFs of the Resurrection

1 Corinthians 15:1-4, 12-20

- “IF this report gets to the governor...” Matthew 28:14

- I. IF you hold firmly to the word, you are saved (1 Cor. 15:2)
 - a. Most significant prepositional phrase: *for our sins*

 - b. Most significant tomb: *he was buried*

 - c. Most significant day: *he was raised on the third day*

- II. IF there is no resurrection of the dead...
 - a. (No what? What is the resurrection at the last day?)*

 - b. ...then Christ has not been raised, and...

 - c. ...faith is futile, preaching is useless, and we are lost!

- III. BUT Christ has indeed been raised from the dead!
 - a. Firstfruits of the resurrection (here’s that connection)*

 - b. Validates everything Jesus said and did—therefore...

 - c. ...faith in Christ is fruitful, and hope in Christ is *living*

“**IF** you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.”
Romans 10:9 (NIV, bold and capitalization added)