

# *In the Barn!*

## *Barneys Newsletter*



No. 15- July 3rd



## Do The Facts Matter?

Mohammad. They claim the Quran has been miraculously preserved since the time of Mohammad as opposed to the Bible. The claim is a lie. Like the Bible, there are many copying errors throughout the Quran's history. Muslim scholars have been lying to their people. Hence the massive controversy as the evidence of the copying errors in the Quran's history can no longer be hidden from Muslims seeking the truth. The evidence to the contrary is to great and many different Arabic versions of the Quran do exist. I bring this up as an illustration of an important point - truth and facts matters when it comes to faith.

A great controversy has erupted in the Islamic community over the preservation of the Quran. A common Muslim objection to the Bible is that say it has been corrupted. They point to copying errors in the original Greek manuscripts as evidence of the Bible's corruption. In contrast, they say that not a letter, not even a dot is different in any of the copies since the time of

Christianity is a historic faith. We believe in a God who acts in history and has always spoken to His people. Christians know God because of the way He

## Your Links to Barneys

[www.barneysingleburn.com/livestream](http://www.barneysingleburn.com/livestream)

[www.facebook.com/Stbarnabasingleburn/](https://www.facebook.com/Stbarnabasingleburn/)

Email: [office@barneysingleburn.com](mailto:office@barneysingleburn.com)



# Eternity

by Nicky Gangemi

**E**ternity has been on my mind a bit recently. For the last two Saturdays I sat with a bunch of other women from church and watched the two sessions of the EQUIP women's conference. It was great to gather in a small group again with other Christians and sit under God's Word in 1 Corinthians 15 and 16.

We looked at topics like;

- Is the resurrection true?
- Does the resurrection matter?
- Our bodies in light of the resurrection
- Our work in light of the resurrection.

This week I'll share my reflections on those first two topics and next week Elise will spend some time looking at the other two.

## Thinking about the resurrection

Have you thought much about Jesus' resurrection and the effect it has on your life? Are you convinced it is true? Does it change anything for you?

When we look at the resurrection, we see that it is foundational to the whole Christian faith. The good news of our sins paid by Jesus wouldn't be possible if he didn't rise from the dead and defeat death. And there is

real, solid evidence that He did rise from the dead. In fact, Jesus was seen by over 500 witnesses after he rose. So, if you had been walking around in Jerusalem not long after Jesus' death and resurrection, you would have been able to chat to someone who has seen the resurrected Jesus. (Check out 1 Corinthians 15:5-8, the end of the gospels and the beginning of Acts if you're interested).

## If the resurrection didn't happen...

Paul states multiple things that become impossible or useless if Jesus was not raised:

- Our preaching of the good news of Jesus is in vain (15:14)
- Our faith is in vain and worthless (51:14, 17)
- We are false witnesses about God because we say He raised Jesus (15:15)
- We are still dead in our sins (15:17)
- Those who have already died believing in Christ have perished (15:18)
- We have no hope for eternity. (15:19)

That's a pretty depressing list, isn't it?! The resurrection really does change so much!

What the resurrection means for me. For me, there are two really wonderful things that come to me as a result

of the resurrection (aside from relationship with Jesus and eternal life with Him, of course!). They are:

- My grief and loss in this life is tempered by the resurrection and the hope it brings.
- The hardships and struggles that I face in this life are put into perspective as short-lived in comparison to the eternal and glorious life that is to come.

I've been really challenged that one of the ways I so easily deny the resurrection is by thinking I have to squeeze everything out of this life and living for the here and now. This is not my reality. I have eternity to live for and that should shape how I structure my life.

## What does the resurrection mean for you?

This week have a read of 1 Corinthians 15, it's such an encouraging chapter. Have a think about these questions:

1. What does the resurrection mean to me personally?
2. What questions do I have about the resurrection?
3. Does the resurrection change how I live in my day-to-day life?
4. In what ways do I 'deny' eternity in my life?
5. Who could I share the news about Jesus' resurrection with?

# Knowing the Truth Grows Faith

relates to his people throughout history, and has been recorded for us in God's Word. We trust God because He did appear to Abram and called on him to go to the land of Canaan. We believe He commanded Abram to sacrifice Isaac, whom God delivered by then telling Abram to stop. We believe God saved Israel out of Egypt though Moses. We believe God delivered Israel again and again through the time of Judges and then gave His great promises to David. We

believe these points occurred in history because they all point to the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the grave. Nicky and Elise are doing a two part series on the resurrection, please take the time to read and digest those. As Paul says, if the resurrection did not happen, then our preaching is in vain. Without the resurrection, there is no Christianity.

My reason for writing about the issues facing Islam and the massive lies being told Muslims is that it illustrates that history and facts do matter to people's

faith. Many Muslims will leave Islam when they learn the facts of history, because they have been told a scandalous lie. But what does this have to do with Christians?

Recently I heard two Christian women talking to each other about their faith. One of them said, 'We don't need to know facts about God, our relationship with God grows through faith in Him!' This view ultimately leaves a person vulnerable to having their faith in Jesus shaken, if not lost. Christians trust God because they believe the historical facts of Him saving His people, most assuredly the fact that Jesus rose from the dead. Christians know God through the consistency of His interactions with all His people. Christians trust God because of the facts of history. Many Christians make a false distinction between facts/knowledge and faith, thus opening their faith in Jesus to being shaken when people contradict them. Knowing God's truth, knowing the facts matters. Our Christian faith is built on the facts of the Bible. Let us take the time to read and digest God's Word, and most certainly the resurrection. It is through learning the facts of God's Word that our faith in Jesus will grow.

## Find-A-Word - Truth/Lies

Resurrection	Variant	Life	Truth
Jesus	Equip	Eternal	Quran
Faith	Disciple	Jump	Lie
Facts	History	Bible	Conversation
Matters	Mohammad	God	Book
Islam	Cross	Word	
Muslim	Hope	Proleptic	

G U K N O I T A S R E V N O C  
 N P M U J S X A J A L Y U T D  
 M A T T E R S K D J P H H U R  
 H O D S S O R C V R I E O O O  
 T O B U M B T O H W C O P A W  
 G W B Q U R A N R C S N E F U  
 U J C Y Y Y R O T S I H T A J  
 T F E M O H A M M A D Y R I B  
 N L L S Q Q M A L S I P U T O  
 A I B I U T Q Z Q Z U N T H O  
 I F I J E S M I L S U M H K K  
 R E B M J V E Q U I P J N A V  
 A R E S U R R E C T I O N F H  
 V S T C A F C I T P E L O R P  
 D L A N R E T E G N I X H Z M