



## The "S" Word & the Ultimate Goal of History • Part 1

Lesson 5 • 1 Corinthians 15:20-28

### Living for the Lord Is Not in Vain Because...

Christ's bodily resurrection is the FIRST FRUIT that begins fulfilling God's ultimate goal for all of history!

## 1. What Is the Ultimate Goal of All History?

*What do you think is the ultimate goal of all of history? How would you explain it to someone else?  
How does 1 Corinthians 15:24-28 help you answer this question?*

- The ultimate goal of all of history is **not**...
- The ultimate goal of all history **is**...
  - 1) God's KINGDOM COME to earth, so God's will is done on earth as it is done in heaven! *Matthew 6:9-10; Revelation 19:11-16; 1 Corinthians 15:25-27*
  - 2) God's PROMISE FULFILLED in the New Creation, so that His glorious presence will dwell with His glorious people in His glorious place! *Revelation 20:1-8; 22:1-5; 1 Corinthians 15:24-28*
  - 3) God IS ALL IN ALL for His glory and the good of His people! *1 Corinthians 15:28; Romans 11:36*
- Paul has been reminding the Corinthians of the ultimate goal of all history throughout this letter:
  - (2:8) the wisdom which none of the rulers of this age has understood; for if they had understood it they would not have crucified **the Lord of glory**;
  - (6:20) For you have been bought with a price: **therefore glorify God in your body**.
  - (10:31) Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, **do all to the glory of God**.
  - (11:7) For a man ought not to have his head covered, **since he is the image and glory of God**; but **the woman is the glory of man**.
  - (15:40-42) There are also heavenly bodies and earthly bodies, **but the glory of the heavenly is one**, and the glory of the earthly is another. There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for star differs from star in glory. **So also is the resurrection of the dead**. It is sown a perishable body, it is raised an imperishable body; it is sown in dishonor, **it is raised in glory**; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power;

- What is Paul trying to get across to the Corinthians and to us?

*The ultimate goal of all history is all things being **SUBMITTED** to Him for His glory and our good!*

*God is most glorified in us when we are most satisfied in Him.” – John Piper*

## 2. How Is the Ultimate Goal of God “Being All in All” Going to Be Fulfilled?

*“But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who are asleep.” 1 Corinthians 15:20*

### Overview of How All Things Will Be Submitted to God for His Glory and Our Good through Bodily Resurrection:

- 1) **JESUS CHRIST HAS BEEN RAISED** from the dead to ascend on high and sit at the right hand of the Father’s throne, where all things have been subjected under His feet even though we do not yet see all things subjected to Him.  
*Acts 2:29-36; Ephesians 1:18-23; Hebrews 2:5-9, 14-15*
- 2) **SOME TIME AFTER THIS** (over 2,000 years so far) Jesus Christ will come to **RESURRECT** and **RAPTURE** His Church in the midst of growing apostasy and persecution, so they will **not** go through the Great Tribulation of God’s wrath poured out on the people of the earth as all hell literally breaks loose and Israel is threatened with extinction by the Devil and his Antichrist and False Prophet.  
*1 Timothy 4:1-5; 2 Tim 3:1-9; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; 5:1-11; 2 Thess 2:3-12; 1 Corinthians 15:23, 51-57; Revelation 5–18*
- 3) **AFTER 7 YEARS** of God’s wrath being poured out on earth during the Great Tribulation, Jesus Christ will **RETURN** a second time to the earth with His Church to **REIGN** over all things! He will also **RESURRECT** all the OT and Tribulation saints, because Israel finally **REPENTS** and **RECEIVES** Him as their Messiah. He will **RULE** with a rod of iron as He binds the Devil for 1,000 years and brings all things in subjection to His will and word!  
*Daniel 12:1-2; Revelation 19:1–20:4-6*
- 4) **AFTER 1,000 YEARS** of Christ **REIGNING** with His people (the Church and Israel) in order to subject all things to Himself, the Devil will be **RELEASED** for one last **REBELLION** but suffer swift defeat and **RETRIBUTION** by being thrown into the Lake of Fire with his Antichrist, False Prophet, and with every single unbeliever who has been **RESURRECTED** to suffer eternal **WRATH** with them. And finally the last Enemy, Death, is also thrown into the Lake of Fire!  
*1 Corinthians 15:25-26; 2 Thessalonians 1:5-10; Revelation 20:5, 7-15*
- 5) **AFTER THIS** the ultimate goal of history will be fulfilled, as God the Son (to whom the Father has subjected all things) will hand over His kingdom **RULE** to the Father and subject Himself to the One who subjected all things to Him, so that God may be all in all!  
*1 Corinthians 15:24, 27-28*
- 6) **SO FOR ALL ETERNITY** God and His Son, the Lamb who was slain and rose from the dead, will **RULE** from their throne and **REVEAL** their glory and grace throughout the entire New Creation and His people (Israel and the Church) will **REIGN** with them forever and ever!  
*Revelation 21–22*

*God’s glorious presence will forever dwell with His glorious people in His glorious place for all eternity!*

*The Kingdom has come and God’s will is now done on earth as it was in heaven!*

*God will be all in all for His glory and our good!*

### God’s Ultimate Goal for History Can Progressively Be Fulfilled in Our Lives Right Now on a Daily Basis

- How often are you **praying for** God’s ultimate goal to be fulfilled in this world, in your life, and in the lives of others?

*Pray, then, in this way:*

*“Our Father who is in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done, On earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil.*

*[For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen]. Matthew 6:9-13*

- How well are you **living out** God’s ultimate goal in your daily life?

*In all things...in your moral purity, in your marriage or singleness, in your worship and ministry here at church, in your eating, drinking, parenting, working...in everything you do?*

- How much are you **connecting** your view of the world to God’s ultimate goal for all of history?

*“We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ” 2 Corinthians 10:4–5*

*“Your Kingdom come, your will be done in my heart...my mind...my soul...my body as it is in heaven!”*