

# 1 Corinthians 15:12-34

## Unity in the Resurrection



**Many Individuals No Divisions**





theranos

Started by Elizabeth  
Holmes, 19 year old  
Stanford drop out who  
became the darling of  
Silicon Valley

theranos



Its former CEO and founder Elizabeth Holmes **faces criminal charges** stemming from allegations that she engaged in a scheme to defraud investors.

theranos







Now valued at 0

theranos

Now if Christ is preached, that He has been raised from the dead, how do some among you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there is no resurrection of the dead, not even Christ has been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is vain, your faith also is vain.

1 Corinthians 15:12-14



**Many Individuals No Divisions**



Moreover we are even found to be false witnesses of God, because we testified against God that He raised Christ, whom He did not raise, if in fact the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If we have hoped in Christ in this life only, we are of all men most to be pitied.

1 Corinthians 15:15-19

A decorative border at the bottom of the slide consists of black silhouettes of people of various ages and ethnicities holding hands in a line.

**Many Individuals No Divisions**

Why does Paul talk about the resurrection now?

A horizontal line of black silhouettes representing a diverse group of people of various ages and ethnicities, all holding hands. The silhouettes are positioned at the bottom of the slide, with the text 'Many Individuals No Divisions' overlaid on them.

**Many Individuals No Divisions**



# 1 Corinthians



Ch. 1-4 No Division in the Body

Ch. 5-7 Sexual Integrity

Ch. 8-10 Food to Idols/ Christian Liberties

Ch. 11-14 Orderly Meeting

Ch. 15. Resurrection of the Dead

Theme: living together as individuals in one body by  
having the mind of Christ

A horizontal line of black silhouettes representing a diverse group of people of various ages and ethnicities, all holding hands. The silhouettes are arranged in a slightly wavy line across the bottom of the slide.

**Many Individuals No Divisions**

Now if Christ is preached, that He has been raised from the dead, how do some among you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there is no resurrection of the dead, not even Christ has been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is vain, your faith also is vain.

1 Corinthians 15:12-14



**Many Individuals No Divisions**



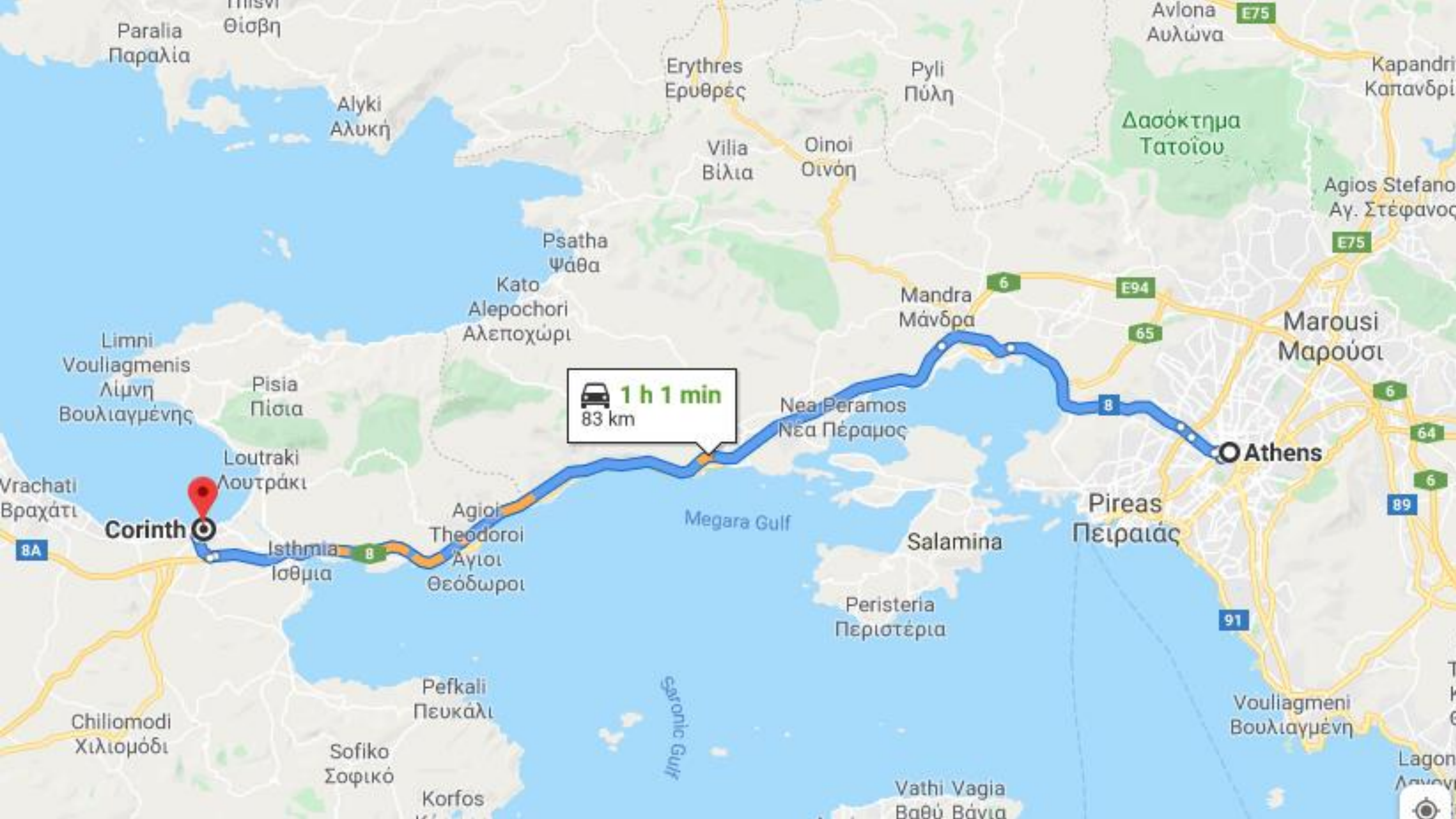
“Nothing in the Greek background of the Gentile converts at Corinth led them to believe in the resurrection of the dead. In general, they believed in the immortality of the soul, but not the resurrection of the body. To them, the body was the source of man’s weakness and sin; death, therefore, was the welcomed means by which the soul was liberated from the body. Resurrection, in their thinking, would only enslave the soul again.”

-Ryrie

A horizontal line of black silhouettes representing a diverse group of people of various ages and ethnicities, all holding hands. The silhouettes include men, women, and children of different heights and builds, creating a sense of unity and community.

**Many Individuals No Divisions**







Platonism: Denies the reality of the material world, considering it only an image or copy of the real world. Body is the prison for the soul, death frees you from the prison of the body.

Epicureanism: Form of hedonism, pleasure being chief good, pleasure defined as simple life that avoids pain and fear, materialistic worldview that did not believe in afterlife

Stoicism: Teaches materialism—that all of creation is made of material stuff, including god/*logos* and human souls. Live according to nature, nature being part of the “Cosmos”



**Many Individuals No Divisions**

1. They may have thought there is no afterlife at all (epicurean and stoic thought)
2. Likely thought there was no bodily resurrection, only spiritual like hades where the soul continues in some form or another (they depreciated the body in Greek culture and upheld the soul/ spiritual)
3. They may have believed that the “resurrection in Christ” has already happened here and now

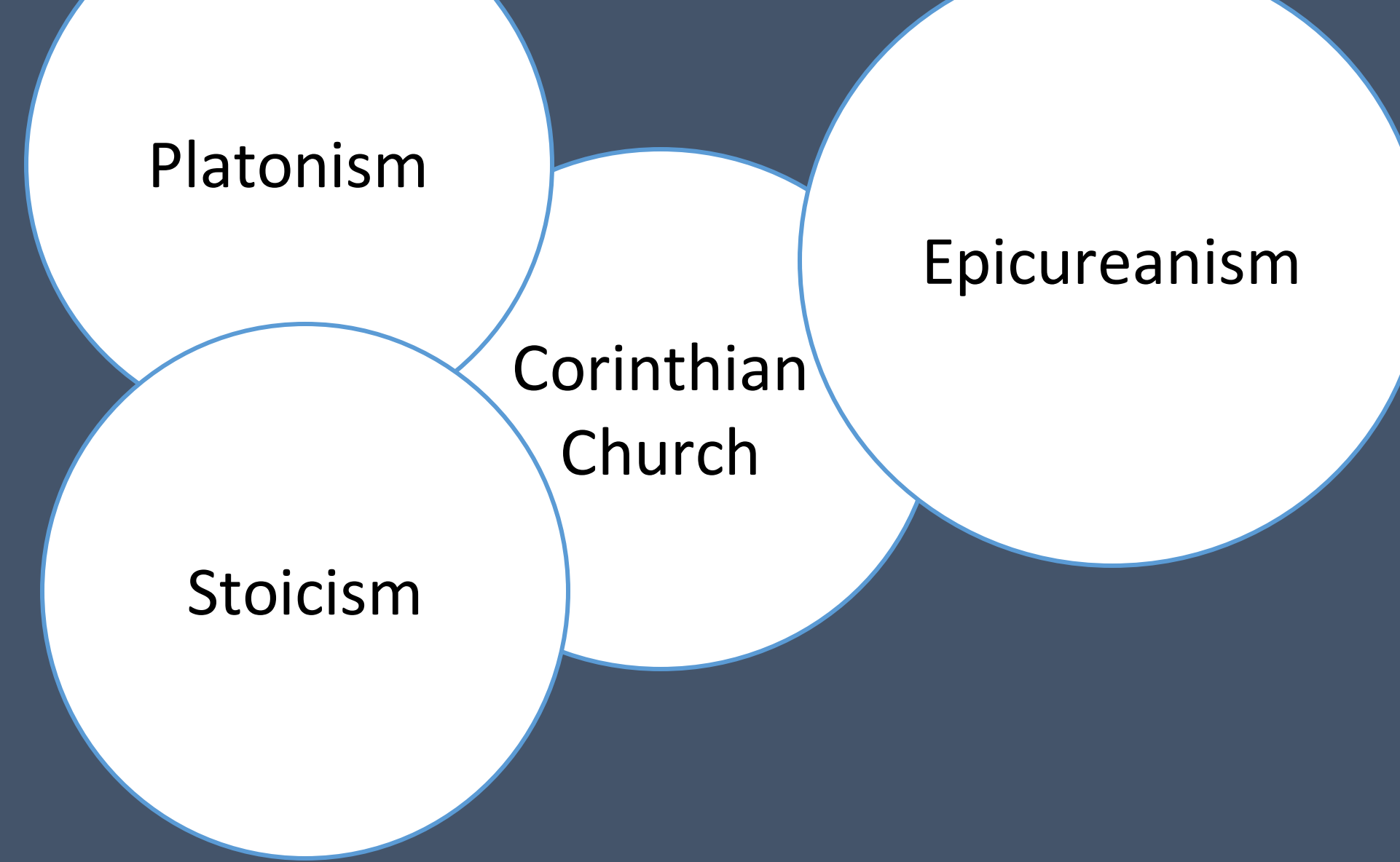
“men who have gone astray from the truth saying that the resurrection has already taken place, and they upset the faith of some.”

2 Timothy 2:18



**Many Individuals No Divisions**





Where is the wise person? Where is the teacher of the law? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup> For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe. Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom

1 Corinthians 1:20-22

**Many Individuals No Divisions**

What would Paul write to the American Church? Book of 1 Americans...

What's affecting your theology? Theology is what you believe to be true about God.

Corinthians were trying to fit the Gospel into their culture/philosophy. They were letting the culture around them dictate their theology.

A horizontal line of black silhouettes representing a diverse group of people of various ages and ethnicities, all holding hands. The text "Many Individuals No Divisions" is overlaid in white on this line.

**Many Individuals No Divisions**



Now if Christ is preached, that He has been raised from the dead, how do some among you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? **But if there is no resurrection of the dead, not even Christ has been raised;** and if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is vain, your faith also is vain.

1 Corinthians 15:12-14



**Many Individuals No Divisions**

And if Christ has not been raised...

-Then our preaching is vain

-Your faith also is vain.

-We are even found to be false witnesses of God

-Your faith is worthless (profitless)

-You are still in your sins

-Dead saints have perished

-If we have hoped in Christ in this life only, we are of all men most to be pitied



**Many Individuals No Divisions**



1 Corinthians 15:1-2 Now I make known to you, brethren, the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand, by which also you are saved, if you hold fast the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in **vain**.

1 Corinthians 15:58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not **in vain** in the Lord.

A horizontal line of black silhouettes representing a diverse group of people of various ages and ethnicities, all holding hands. The silhouettes include men, women, and children of different heights and builds, creating a sense of unity and community.

**Many Individuals No Divisions**

And if Christ has not been raised...

-Then our preaching is vain

-Your faith also is vain.

-We are even found to be false witnesses of God

-Your faith is worthless (profitless)

-You are still in your sins

-Dead saints have perished

-If we have hoped in Christ in this life only, we are of all men most to be pitied



**Many Individuals No Divisions**



But now Christ has been raised from the dead, **the first fruits** of those who are asleep. For since by a man came death, by a man also came the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the **first fruits**, after that those who are Christ's at His coming, then comes the end, when He hands over the kingdom to the God and Father, when He has abolished all rule and all authority and power

1 Corinthians 15:20-24

A decorative border at the bottom of the slide consists of black silhouettes of people of various ages and ethnicities holding hands in a line.

**Many Individuals No Divisions**

Speak to the sons of Israel and say to them, 'When you enter the land which I am going to give to you and reap its harvest, then you shall bring in the sheaf of the **first fruits** of your harvest to the priest.

Leviticus 23:10

A horizontal line of black silhouettes representing a diverse group of people of various ages and ethnicities, all holding hands. The text 'Many Individuals No Divisions' is overlaid in white on this line.

**Many Individuals No Divisions**



But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who are asleep. For since by a man came death, by a man also came the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, after that those who are Christ's at His coming, then comes the end, when He hands over the kingdom to the God and Father, when He has abolished all rule and all authority and power

1 Corinthians 15:20-24

A decorative border at the bottom of the slide consists of black silhouettes of people of various ages and ethnicities holding hands in a line.

**Many Individuals No Divisions**



# Contrast of Characters

← Adam vs. Christ →

*Romans 5:12-21*

He brought sin into the world

Many die because of his sin

His sin results in condemnation

His disobedience brings sin to many

His sin reigns in death

He gives people victory over sin

Many live because of his grace

His death results in justification

His obedience brings righteousness to many

His grace reigns to bring eternal life



But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who are asleep. For since by a man came death, by a man also came the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, after that those who are Christ's at His coming, then comes the end, when He hands over the kingdom to the God and Father, when He has abolished all rule and all authority and power

1 Corinthians 15:20-24



**Many Individuals No Divisions**

"Finally, an important objection to Paul's line of thought throughout this half-chapter must be considered. Many Greeks and Romans in Corinth, like many people today, might well have asked, "Why isn't immortality of the soul enough?" Why not merely affirm that Christ's spirit lives on and that our spirits can also live forever with his? First Corinthians does not directly answer this question. Paul apparently relied on his audience to understand his Jewish background or recall his previous teaching on the topic.

A decorative border at the bottom of the slide consists of black silhouettes of people of various ages and ethnicities holding hands in a line.

**Many Individuals No Divisions**



But Scripture's teaching elsewhere points us in the direction of an answer. Against the Greco-Roman dualism that treated matter as inherently evil, **the Bible declares that God created the material world, including human bodies, as good.** Humans were intended to live in bodily form in a material world. Revelation 21–22 describes God's ultimate re-creation of new heavens and a new earth in equally material terms. In other words, God intends to see that his original creative purposes are not thwarted.

A decorative border at the bottom of the slide consists of black silhouettes of people of various ages and ethnicities holding hands in a line.

**Many Individuals No Divisions**

Anything less than full bodily resurrection and full re-creation of the cosmos might still give believers an enjoyable experience but would not vindicate God against all his enemies or provide the absolute perfection that he intends for his people.

-Blomberg

A horizontal line of black silhouettes representing a diverse group of people of various ages and ethnicities, all holding hands. The text "Many Individuals No Divisions" is overlaid in white on this line.

**Many Individuals No Divisions**



For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet. The last enemy that will be abolished is death. For He has put all things in subjection under His feet. But when He says, “All things are put in subjection,” it is evident that He is excepted who put all things in subjection to Him. When all things are subjected to Him, then the Son Himself also will be subjected to the One who subjected all things to Him, so that God may be all in all.

1 Corinthians 15:25-28

A decorative border at the bottom of the slide consists of black silhouettes of people of various ages and ethnicities holding hands in a line.

**Many Individuals No Divisions**

Otherwise, what will those do who are baptized for the dead? If the dead are not raised at all, why then are they baptized for them? Why are we also in danger every hour? I affirm, brethren, by the boasting in you which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily. If from human motives I fought with wild beasts at Ephesus, what does it profit me?

1 Corinthians 15:29-34

A decorative border at the bottom of the slide consists of black silhouettes of people of various ages and ethnicities holding hands in a line.

**Many Individuals No Divisions**



If the dead are not raised, **let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die.** Do not be deceived: “Bad company corrupts good morals.” Become sober-minded as you ought, and stop sinning; for some have no knowledge of God. I speak this to your shame.

1 Corinthians 15:29-34

A horizontal line of black silhouettes representing a diverse group of people of various ages and ethnicities, all holding hands. The text 'Many Individuals No Divisions' is overlaid in white on this line.

**Many Individuals No Divisions**

But see, there is joy and revelry, slaughtering of cattle and killing of sheep, eating of meat and drinking of wine! “Let us eat and drink,” you say, “for tomorrow we die!”

Isaiah 22:13

A horizontal line of black silhouettes representing a diverse group of people of various ages and ethnicities, all holding hands. The silhouettes include men, women, and children of different heights and builds, creating a sense of unity and community.

**Many Individuals No Divisions**



If the dead are not raised, let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die. Do not be deceived: “**Bad company corrupts good morals.**” Become sober-minded as you ought, and stop sinning; for some have no knowledge of God. I speak this to your shame.

1 Corinthians 15:29-34

A silhouette of a diverse group of people of various ages and ethnicities holding hands in a line, symbolizing unity and community.

**Many Individuals No Divisions**

If we believe that Christ is risen, our lives must demonstrate that Christ is risen indeed

A horizontal line of black silhouettes representing a diverse group of people of various ages and ethnicities, all holding hands. The silhouettes are arranged in a slightly wavy line across the bottom of the slide.

**Many Individuals No Divisions**