Studies In First Corinthians

(I Corinthians 15:24-34)

1. What will Jesus deliver to the Father at the end?

The kingdom: "Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power" (I Corinthians 15:24).

- There is no end to the kingdom (Isaiah 9:6-7), just a change in the Son delivering it to the Father.
- The end is in reference to this world (Matthew 13:49 and I John 2:17).
- The kingdom was appointed to Christ by the Father (Luke 22:29).
- Jesus referred to the kingdom as His Father's (Matthew 26:29).
- 2. How long will Jesus reign?

Until He puts all enemies under His feet: "For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet" (I Corinthians 15:25).

- Psalms 110:1, Mark 12:32-37, Acts 2:29-36, Hebrews 1:10-13, and Hebrews 10:5-13.
- 3. What will be the last enemy for Jesus to destroy?

Death: "The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death" (I Corinthians 15:26).

- Luke 20:34-36 and Hebrews 2:14.
- 4. Will Jesus continue to have authority over all things after the resurrection?

 No: "(27) For he hath put all things under his feet. But when he saith all things are put under him, it is manifest that he is excepted which did put all things under him. (28) And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all" (I Corinthians 15:27-28).
 - The authority Jesus had was given to Him by the Father (Matthew 28:18, Luke 10:22, John 3:35, John 13:3, and Ephesians 1:19-23).
 - Jesus did not have an identity problem when it comes to the authority of His Father (John 14:28; cf. I Corinthians 11:3).

5. What would be the purpose of being baptized if you were just going to die without any resurrection?

It would be pointless: "Else what shall they do which are baptized for the dead, if the dead rise not at all? why are they then baptized for the dead" (I Corinthians 15:29)?

- Mormons argue that I Corinthians 15:29 teaches baptism by proxy. The real context of I Corinthians 15:29 shows that baptism, suffering for Christ, teaching, faith, etc. is in vain if we are just going to die without being resurrected. Scripturally, baptism only occurred when someone LIVING heard and believed the Gospel, repented of their sins, and confessed Christ prior to that individual being immersed for the remission of their sins (Acts 2:37-41, Acts 8:12-39, Acts 18:8, etc.).
- The true result of being immersed for the remission of sins will not be realized until the resurrection (Romans 6:3-5).
- 6. Is there a point in suffering for Christ if you are going to die without any resurrection?

 No: "(30) And why stand we in jeopardy every hour? (31) I protest by your rejoicing which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily. (32) If after the manner of men I have fought with beasts at Ephesus, what advantageth it me, if the dead rise not? let us eat and drink; for to morrow we die" (I Corinthians 15:30-32).
 - The point of anything we do, including suffering, is for the life to come (Matthew 19:29, Romans 8:17, II Timothy 2:12, I Peter 1:3-9, and I Peter 4:13).
 - The reference to Ephesus is likely this: Acts 19:23-41.
 - If there is no Judgment Day, then people would party on with no fear (Isaiah 56:10-12).
 - Yet, we know there is a reason to fear and we will not party like there is not tomorrow in light of that (Matthew 24:36-39).
- 7. Do bad influences do us harm?

Yes: "Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners" (I Corinthians 15:33).

- Proverbs 9:6, Proverbs 13:20, Jeremiah 15:17, I Timothy 5:22, and I Timothy 6:3-5.
- 8. Are Christians expected to not sin?

Yes: "Awake to righteousness, and sin not; for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak this to your shame" (I Corinthians 15:34).

• Psalms 4:3-4, John 8:1-11, Romans 6:1-2, 2 Corinthians 7:1, II Timothy 2:19, Titus 2:11-14, I Peter 1:13-16, I Peter 4:1, and I John 2:1.