The background of the image is a dramatic sky at sunset or sunrise. The lower half is filled with warm, orange and yellow light reflecting off the water. Above this, a layer of dark, billowing clouds is partially illuminated from behind, creating a stark contrast. In the center, a bright, horizontal band of light suggests the sun or moon just above the horizon.

A Resurrection Hope

“Hope Arises”

The background of the image is a dramatic sky at sunset or sunrise. The lower half is a bright, glowing orange and yellow, transitioning into darker, more turbulent clouds in the upper half. A thin, wispy cloud formation is visible in the center-left.

The Gospel
is
“Good News”
Long Before it Offers
“Good Advice.”

1 Corinthians 15:1-20 (NLT2)

Let me now remind you, dear brothers and sisters, of the Good News I preached to you before. You welcomed it then, and you still stand firm in it. ² It is this Good News that saves you if you continue to believe the message I told you—unless, of course, you believed something that was never true in the first place. ³ I passed on to you what was most important and what had also been passed on to me. Christ died for our sins, just as the Scriptures said. ⁴ He was buried, and he was raised from the dead on the third day, just as the Scriptures said. ⁵ He was seen by Peter and then by the Twelve.

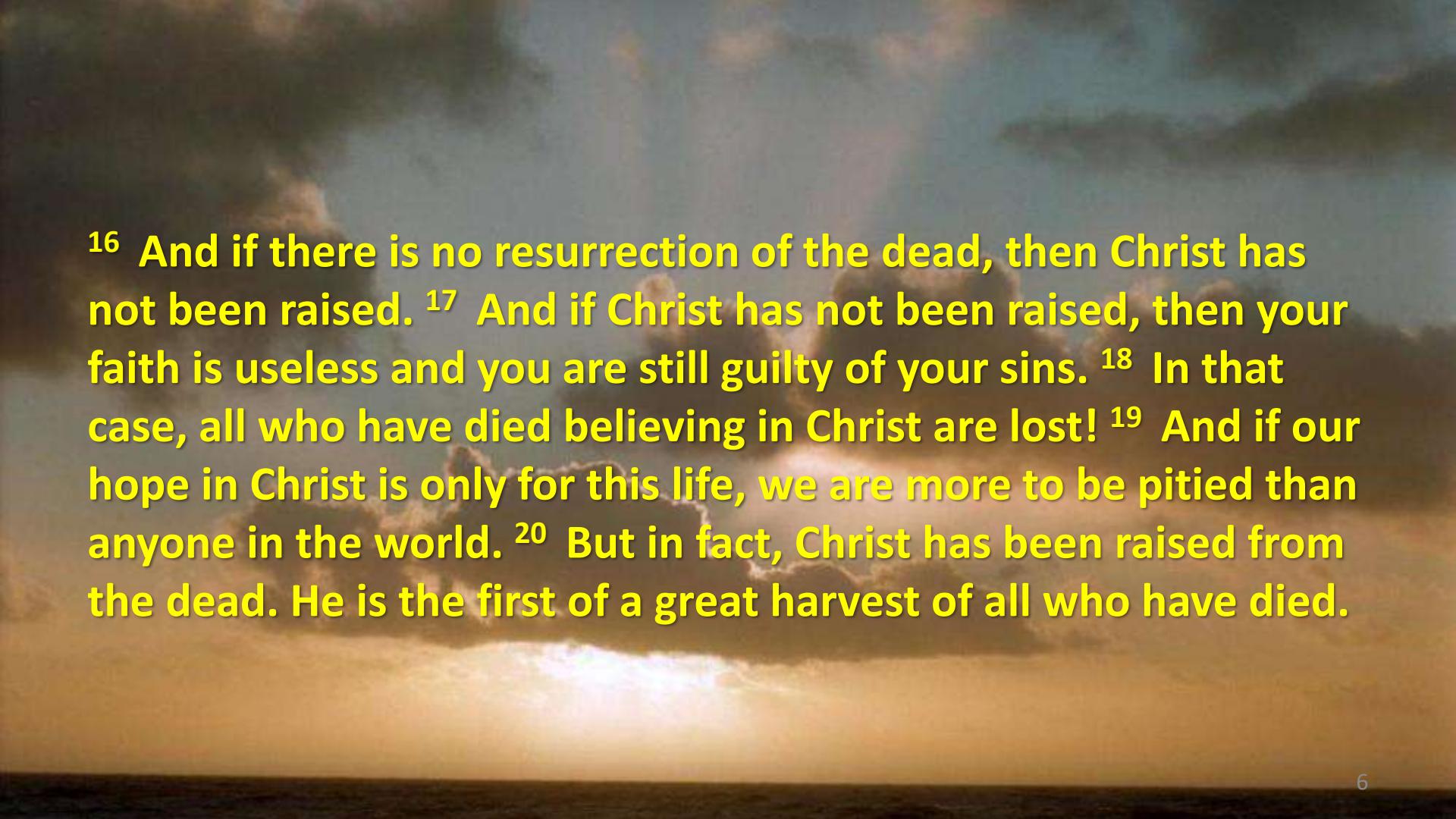
⁶ After that, he was seen by more than 500 of his followers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died.

⁷ Then he was seen by James and later by all the apostles.

⁸ Last of all, as though I had been born at the wrong time, I also saw him. ⁹ For I am the least of all the apostles. In fact, I'm not even worthy to be called an apostle after the way I persecuted God's church. ¹⁰ But whatever I am now, it is all because God poured out his special favor on me—and not without results. For I have worked harder than any of the other apostles; yet it was not I but God who was working through me by his grace.

¹¹ So it makes no difference whether I preach or they preach, for we all preach the same message you have already believed.

¹² But tell me this—since we preach that Christ rose from the dead, why are some of you saying there will be no resurrection of the dead? ¹³ For if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised either. ¹⁴ And if Christ has not been raised, then all our preaching is useless, and your faith is useless. ¹⁵ And we apostles would all be lying about God—for we have said that God raised Christ from the grave. But that can't be true if there is no resurrection of the dead.



¹⁶ And if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised. ¹⁷ And if Christ has not been raised, then your faith is useless and you are still guilty of your sins. ¹⁸ In that case, all who have died believing in Christ are lost! ¹⁹ And if our hope in Christ is only for this life, we are more to be pitied than anyone in the world. ²⁰ But in fact, Christ has been raised from the dead. He is the first of a great harvest of all who have died.

The Gospel and Resurrection

- Affirms Some Things:
 - Jesus was the long awaited Messiah.
 - There were hundreds of witnesses to his resurrection.
 - Denying the resurrection puts us in a big mess.
 - Christ HAS been raised and so will all believers.
- Affords Some Things:
 - About our Past
 - About our Present
 - About our Place



Our PAST Can Be FORGIVEN
We ALL have a PAST.

Romans 3:23a
For everyone has sinned;...

Romans 3:24-26 (NLT2)

Yet God, with undeserved kindness, declares that we are righteous. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins. For God presented Jesus as the sacrifice for sin. People are made right with God when they believe that Jesus sacrificed his life, shedding his blood. This sacrifice shows that God was being fair when he held back and did not punish those who sinned in times past, for he was looking ahead and including them in what he would do in this present time. God did this to demonstrate his righteousness, for he himself is fair and just, and he declares sinners to be right in his sight when they believe in Jesus.

Acts 10:39-43 (NIV)

"We are witnesses of everything he did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a tree,⁴⁰ but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen.⁴¹ He was not seen by all the people, but by witnesses whom God had already chosen--by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.⁴² He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead.⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

The background of the slide features a dramatic, cloudy sky. A bright, jagged lightning bolt strikes down from the upper left towards the center of the frame, illuminating the surrounding clouds in shades of orange, yellow, and white.

Our PRESENT Can be OVERCOME

And

We ALL Have PRESENT
CONDITION

Romans 3:23b

...we all fall short of God's glorious standard.

Our Present Condition

- **Sinners in need of a Savior**
 - There are saved sinners and Lost sinners.
 - “With God all things are possible.” Matthew 19:26
 - “He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His spirit who lives in you.” Romans 8:11
 - “Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,” 1 Peter 1:3



Our PLACE Can Be SECURED
And
We NEED a SECURE PLACE to Call HOME.

John 14:2 (NCV)

“There are many rooms in my Father’s house;
I would not tell you this if it were not true. I
am going there to prepare a place for you.”

It's A Promise

Hebrews 9:27-28 (NLT2)

And just as each person is destined to die once and after that comes judgment, so also Christ died once for all time as a sacrifice to take away the sins of many people. He will come again, not to deal with our sins, but to bring salvation to all who are eagerly waiting for him.

Jesus Wants You To Know...

- Your PAST Can Be FORGIVEN.
- Your PRESENT Can Be OVERCOME.
- Your PLACE Can Be SECURED.

The background of the slide features a dramatic sky at either dawn or dusk. The upper portion is filled with dark, billowing clouds, while the lower horizon is brightly lit with a warm, golden glow from the sun, which is partially visible on the left. The overall atmosphere is one of grandeur and contemplation.

We Also Have Some Decisions to Make.
How Are We Going To Respond To Such
An Extraordinary Gift From God?

Decide to Come to Terms With Reality.

- We have to ADMIT we are sinners in need of a savior.
- Romans 3:23-24 (NIV) for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.
- We are the problem not the solution.

Decide If We Believe In The Resurrected Jesus.

John 11:25-26 (NIV)

**Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life.
He who believes in me will live, even though he dies;
and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.
Do you believe this?"**

Decide To Go Public With Your Faith In The Resurrected Jesus.

Romans 10:9-10 (NIV)

That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.

Decide to Join Jesus In His Death, Burial And Resurrection In The Waters Of Baptism.

Romans 6:3-4 (NIV)

**Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized
into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We
were therefore buried with him through baptism into
death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the
dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live
a new life.**

A Resurrection Prayer For You

Ephesians 1:18-20 (NIV)

I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength, which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms,