Argument One: The Primary Facts of the Gospel 1 Corinthians 15:01–11

1 The importance of the gospel

- a. You have received it
- b. You stand in it
- c. You are saved by it
 - 1) If you hold it fast
 - 2) If your belief is not in vain
- 2 Fact 1:

Christ died for our sins according to the Scripture

3 *Fact 2*:

Christ was buried and arose according to the Scripture

4 Fact 3:

There were eyewitnesses

- a. Peter saw Him
- b. The twelve saw Him
- c. Five hundred saw Him

- d. James saw Him
- e. The apostles saw Him again

- Now, brothers,
 I want to remind you
 of the gospel I preached to you,
 which you received
 and on which you have taken your stand.
- 2 By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you.Otherwise, you have believed in vain.
- 3 For what I received
 I passed on to you
 as of first importance:
 that Christ died for our sins
 according to the Scriptures,
- 4 That he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,
- 5 And that he appeared to Peter, and then to the Twelve.
- 6 After that,
 he appeared to more than
 five hundred of the brothers
 at the same time,
 most of whom are still living,
 though some have fallen asleep.
- 7 Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles,

5 Fact 4: There was one strong eyewitness, Paul himself

- a. He saw Christ after His ascension
- b. He was radically changed against all odds
- c. He was desperately driven to labour for Christ

6 Fact 5:
There is only one gospel
that is preached
and has to be believed

- 8 And last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born.
- 9 For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.
- I am what I am,
 and his grace to me
 was not without effect.
 No, I worked harder than all of them —
 yet not I,
 but the grace of God that was with me.
- 11 Whether, then, it was I or they, this is what we preach, and this is what you believed.