

A Theological, Historical, and Spiritual Analysis of Divine Fidelity in the Resurrection

# **Introduction: When God Writes History with Exclamation Marks**

The Easter proclamation "Resurrexit sicut dixit" ("He rose as He said") encapsulates the heart of the Christian faith: **God does not disappoint**. This article explores:

- 1. **Prophetic fulfillment** (What did Jesus promise, and how was it accomplished?)
- 2. **Theological impact** (Why does this redefine our relationship with God?)
- 3. **Existential application** (How to live today trusting in His promises?)

# I. "Sicut Dixit": The Promises Preceding the Resurrection

# **A. Old Testament Prophecies**

- **Psalm 16:10**: "You will not abandon my soul to the grave."
- Jonah 1:17: The "sign of Jonah" (3 days in the fish) applied by Jesus to Himself (Mt 12:40).

#### **B. Jesus' Own Words**

#### 1. Explicit announcements:

- "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up" (In 2:19).
- Three predictions of His passion and resurrection (Mk 8:31; 9:31; 10:34).

#### 2. Implicit promises:

• "I am the Resurrection and the Life" (In 11:25).

Historical note: The disciples initially misunderstood these words (Lk 18:34). Only later did they "remember" (Jn 2:22).

# II. "Resurrexit": The Event That Changed the Universe



#### A. Evidence of the Resurrection

- **The empty tomb**: An inconvenient fact for the authorities (Mt 28:11-15).
- Appearances: To Mary Magdalene (Jn 20:16), the Emmaus disciples (Lk 24:13-35), Thomas (In 20:27).
- **Apostles' transformation**: From cowards to martyrs.

### **B.** Theology of Divine Fidelity

- God is no "debtor": If He promises, He delivers (Heb 10:23).
- **Christian paradox**: The Cross, an apparent defeat, is revealed as victory.

**Key quote**: "All God's promises find their 'Yes' in Christ" (2 Cor 1:20).

# III. "Today": Living in the Certainty That God Delivers

## A. Countering the Culture of "Fake Promises"

In a world of:

- Politicians who break pledges,
- Deceptive advertising,
- Liquid relationships, the Resurrection is an antidote to cynicism.

#### **B. Practical Guide to Trusting Promises**

- 1. **Memoria fidei**: Recall God's "sicut dixit" in your life (e.g., answered prayers).
- 2. **Active patience**: Like Abraham awaiting Isaac (Rom 4:18-21).
- 3. **Bold action**: Peter walking on water (Mt 14:29).

**Modern example**: A mother praying 30 years for her son's conversion.

#### C. When Fulfillment Is Delayed

- **Job's lesson**: "Though He slay me, yet will I hope in Him" (Job 13:15).
- **Key**: Distinguish between "no" and "not yet."



# Conclusion: Are You a Witness of "Resurrexit" in Your Story?

The Resurrection is not a consoling myth but **the pattern of God's work**:

- 1. **He promises** (in the Incarnation),
- 2. Seems to fail (on Calvary),
- 3. **Over-delivers** (at Easter).

### Final prayer:

"Lord, teach me to hear Your 'dixit,' to await the 'Resurrexit' in silence, and to live as a witness that You are faithful. Amen."

#### Bonus:

- Recommended film: Risen (2016) The Resurrection from a Roman soldier's perspective.
- **Book**: Jesus of Nazareth: Holy Week by Benedict XVI (chapter on the Resurrection).