

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ is the core of Christian faith. As St. Paul says in his first letter to the Corinthians, "if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith" (1 Corinthians 15:14). The Resurrection is not just a past event but a living reality that sustains faith and gives meaning to the lives of millions of believers today. But why do we believe in the Resurrection? What does it really mean for us today?

1. The Resurrection in its Historical Context

To understand why we believe in the Resurrection, it's essential to start with its historical context. The Resurrection was the central event that transformed Jesus' disciples, turning them from a small, fearful, and hopeless group into proclaimers of a faith capable of changing the world.

Historically, we know that Jesus of Nazareth was crucified under the rule of Pontius Pilate, the Roman prefect of Judea, around 30 AD. Crucifixion was a punishment reserved for criminals, and seeing Jesus on the cross would have been devastating for his followers. However, something happened after his death. The Gospels narrate that on the third day, some women found the tomb empty, and from there, the disciples began proclaiming that Jesus had risen. This transformative message was not only new but also deeply challenged conceptions of death, life, and divine love.

The evangelists and New Testament authors bear witness that something extraordinary occurred. While there are no "scientific" proofs in the modern sense, scholars point out that the transformation of the disciples and the spread of the Church amid persecution cannot be explained without something radical: an experience of life they called "the Resurrection."

2. The Theological Significance of the Resurrection

For Christians, the Resurrection is much more than Jesus returning to life; it is the triumph over sin and death. This event signifies that death does not have the final word and that God, in His infinite love, can overcome even the greatest evil.

From a theological perspective, the Resurrection is the fulfillment of God's promises to humanity. By rising from the dead, Jesus conquers sin and gives humanity the hope of eternal life. This means that God has entered history to transform not only our earthly life but also our future life. The Resurrection opens the doors to a new world where God's love and justice prevail over evil and suffering.

Christian faith is based on the conviction that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and that his



resurrection is proof that he has conquered death. As children of God, each of us is invited to share in this victory, to live in the freedom that Christ won for us, and to look with hope toward the destiny God has prepared for His creation.

3. The Resurrection and Daily Life: What Does It Mean for Us Today?

The message of the Resurrection is as relevant today as it was two thousand years ago. But how can we apply this belief in our everyday lives?

a) Overcoming the Fear of Death and Suffering

Christ's Resurrection shows us that death is not the end. In a world where fear of death and loss often prevails, Christianity proclaims that death has been defeated. This doesn't mean we won't experience pain or loss, but we can face them with a hope that transcends. Faith in the Resurrection helps us confront challenges with the certainty that, just as Christ conquered death, we, too, have a life that goes beyond what we can see.

b) Living in the Hope of Eternal Life

Hope in eternal life is not just an abstract idea. This hope transforms the way we live here and now. It encourages us to value what is essential, prioritize our relationships, and live in peace with others and ourselves. The Resurrection is an invitation to build a life and a society that reflect the values of God's Kingdom: love, justice, peace, and forgiveness.

c) Working for a Better World

If we believe in the Resurrection, we believe in a God who transforms reality. The Resurrection calls us to participate in this transformation. It's not just a past event but an ongoing project. We are invited to work for peace, justice, and human dignity, remembering that our actions on Earth hold eternal value. Faith in the Resurrection drives us to live in a way consistent with the Gospel, standing up against injustice and bringing hope where it is most needed.

d) Living in Community

Christianity is a communal faith. The Resurrection is not only an individual act; it is the act that founds a community: the Church. Living faith in the Resurrection involves living in communion with others, sharing God's love, and supporting each other. Community life is a constant reminder that we are not alone, but we walk together toward eternal life.



4. Evidence of the Resurrection: Testimony, Faith, and Reason

The Resurrection of Jesus has been questioned, debated, and criticized throughout history. However, Christians believe there are solid reasons to accept this event.

- 1. The Testimony of the First Disciples: The disciples gave their lives proclaiming that Jesus had risen. They had nothing to gain from it, and many suffered persecution and death for this belief. The courage and sacrifice of these first Christians are powerful testimonies to their conviction.
- 2. The Empty Tomb and the Appearances: The Gospels speak of the empty tomb and Jesus' appearances to his followers. While these accounts cannot be scientifically verified, they provide a basis for faith in the Resurrection. The multiple accounts and consistency in the messages of the appearances give weight to the testimony of the early Christians.
- 3. **The Radical Change in the Believers**: Something that cannot be overlooked is how the Resurrection transformed Jesus' followers. The shift from a small, fearful group to a community willing to give their lives is a powerful argument for believers. The Resurrection is not only an event but a living experience that continues to transform lives.

5. The Resurrection and Faith in Modern Times

We live in a world where faith faces enormous challenges. Science and critical thinking have cast doubt on many religious beliefs. However, the Resurrection remains a mystery that surpasses mere rational understanding. It is an act that invites us to trust in God's love, even amid uncertainty.

Faith in the Resurrection does not mean denying the reality of suffering or the value of science; rather, it invites us to view the world from a transcendent perspective. The Resurrection challenges us to believe that there is hope beyond the visible, a force of love that acts in our favor and sustains us in the most difficult moments.

6. The Resurrection: A Path Toward God and Toward Others

Ultimately, believing in the Resurrection of Christ is a call to love, to live with faith, and to bear witness to God's power in our lives. The Resurrection is not only an event that happened centuries ago but a message of hope that invites us to renew our faith every day. It calls us to live with joy, with confidence, and with a love that is a testimony to others.



If we believe in the Resurrection, we believe in life, in love, in mercy, and in the transformative power of God. This message encourages us to be better people, to be a light in the world, and to walk with the assurance that, no matter what happens, God has called us to a full life, and nothing can separate us from His love.

Conclusion

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ is the center of Christian faith and the foundation of hope in a life that transcends death. It invites us to look at the world with hopeful eyes and to live with a love that transforms. It is a belief that not only feeds the spirit but also inspires concrete actions of kindness, justice, and peace. The Resurrection is, ultimately, a call to live with the certainty that God loves us and invites us to share in His life forever.

In every difficulty, in every moment of doubt, we can remember that "Christ has risen" and live with the hope that, like Him, we, too, will conquer.