

CHRIST IS RISEN! ALLELUIA!

1 Corinthians 15:14-17 “And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith. More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God, for we have testified about God that he raised Christ from the dead. But he did not raise him if in fact the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins.”

CHRIST IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED! ALLELUIA!

Christians around the world are proclaiming and celebrating the resurrection of Jesus from the tomb in which His body was laid following His crucifixion on Calvary. Two thousand years after Jesus arose, these words still bring joy into the heart of believers everywhere. Today again we are thrilled to hear the angel's announcement, “He is not here! He has risen!” (Matthew 28:6)

Oh, that all the people of the world would believe the angel's announcement. Oh, that everyone you know would believe this good news. Sadly, not everyone believes it! In this country only 66% of the population believe what is confessed in the three ecumenical creeds, . . . “He died, was buried and on the third day rose again from the dead. . .”

Do you realize that if there were no Easter there would be no need for Christmas; There would be no need for the Bible; your church; your prayers; and, your faith in Him if Christ's body remains in the tomb where Joseph of Arimathea buried it. That is what St. Paul's words, inspired by the Holy Spirit, say, “. . . if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins.” (1 Corinthians 15:7)

What difference does it make if Jesus rose back to life after His crucifixion and death? After all the Bible says, He died to take away your sins. Isn't that enough? No, it is not! Only because Jesus died and rose again did He win your freedom from sin, death, and the Devil. Only because He lives will your body become a glorious body as St. Paul wrote in Philippians 3:20-21 “our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.” Because Jesus returned

to life from His grave “Death has been swallowed up by His victory. . .Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting? The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.” (1 Corinthians 15:54-57)

CHRIST IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED! ALLELUIA!

Prayer: Alleluia! Alleluia! I rejoice and give praise and thanks to You Dear Jesus for Your life, death, and resurrection! Amen.

Jesus Christ is ris’n today, Alleluia!
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
Unto Christ, our heav’nly king, Alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

But the pains which He endured, Alleluia!
Our salvation have procured; Alleluia!
Now above the sky He’s king, Alleluia!
Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
Praise eternal as His love; Alleluia!
Praise Him, all ye heav’nly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!
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