

Christ is Risen!

I Corinthians 15:13-But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen: (KJV)

The Lord Jesus Christ's Resurrection is central to the Orthodox Christian Faith. Hope for beyond this life for every believer rests in the Resurrected Jesus Christ. Believers look to the Resurrected Christ for being united with departed loved ones. The Resurrected Christ points to more beyond the occurrence of an earthly death. The hope in the general resurrection of the dead adds anticipation to earthly life.

I Corinthians 15:14-And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain. (KJV)

Christian preaching and faith lose validity if Christ did not rise from the dead. The Church has proclaimed the Resurrection for more than twenty centuries. The Holy Scriptures bear witness to Jesus Christ's Resurrection from the dead. Personal testimonies handed down through the centuries verify the Resurrection. The Church is the repository entrusted with the truths of Christ's Resurrection.

I Corinthians 15:15-Yea, and we are found false witnesses of God; because we have testified of God that he raised up Christ: whom he raised not up, if so be that the dead rise not. (KJV)

The Holy Apostle Paul's Epistle makes his position clear on Christ's Resurrection. This authoritative Epistle from a former persecutor of Christians is most definitive. The soul hungers for meaning in life and Jesus' Resurrection addresses the hunger. Believers have the Crucified and Resurrected Christ to look to as a basis for hope. The Church's proclamation of the Resurrection has withstood abundant criticism.

I Corinthians 15:16-For if the dead rise not, then is not Christ raised: (KJV)

Centuries of attacks on the Church and the Resurrection have failed to prevail. Truth will not be hidden and light will not be denied by the dark and evil efforts. A tortured death on the Cross proved not to be the end for the Lord Jesus Christ. The Tomb failed to contain the Crucified Christ and prevent His Resurrection. The Light of the Risen Christ removed the darkness created by His Crucifixion.

I Corinthians 15:20-But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first fruits of them that slept. (KJV)

Contemporary believers of every century experience joy in Christ's Resurrection. Believers in the Resurrection experience residual joy in the heart, mind and soul. Living believers and those departed this life are unified in the Resurrected Christ. The Divine Liturgy embodies this unity of the living and departed in Jesus Christ. The living and departed in the Risen Christ have hope and joy that will not wane

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Bright Wednesday. St. Theodore the Sykeote; St. Platon of Banja Luka
April 22/May 5, 2021. Hidden Valley, Pennsylvania. Father Rodney Torbic