

## Hope in the Risen Lord

**I Corinthians 15:19-If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable.** (KJV)

The Risen Christ embodies hope for believers mired in difficulties of earthly life. Jesus Christ offers hope for believers depressed about the conditions of their lives. Jesus Christ proved all things are possible with God when He rose from the Tomb. Believers find hope in the most desperate circumstances when turning to Christ. A sincere heart and mind are required to embrace hope in the Lord Jesus Christ.

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

Seekers desiring to begin life anew perceive hope in Jesus Christ's Resurrection. Christ's defeat of death gives believers reason to hope to emerge from despair. Death's defeat is convincing evidence that all things are possible with the Lord. Believers need not give in to despair when foreboding difficulties arise in life. Reaching out to Jesus for forgiveness and renewal opens the road to eternal life.

**I Corinthians 15:21-For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead.** (KJV)

Holy Confession and Communion restores strength and unity with Jesus Christ. The life in Jesus Christ assures personal peace and joy in the heart, mind and soul. The Risen Christ eradicates darkness in life and replaces the darkness with light. The Light of Christ illumines and shines in the believer's heart, mind and soul. Hope in the Risen Jesus Christ is formidable and triumphant over life's darkness.

**I Corinthians 15:23-For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.** (KJV)

The Light of the Resurrected Christ exists in God's Church for all to experience. The path to the Heavenly Kingdom is illumined by the Light of the Resurrection. The way out of depression and despair in earthly life is to follow Christ's Light. Darkness in the heart mind and soul recede as Christ's Light increases in daily life. Joy and peace increase in the heart, mind and soul as Christ's presence increases.

**I Corinthians 15: 24-But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming** (KJV)

Effort and desire are required to battle against the forces causing despair in life. The Risen Jesus unites with believers seeking to move away from darkness in life. Old ways are cast off as sin is rejected and the Risen Christ fills the heart and soul. The Risen Christ filling the heart, mind and soul entirely transforms the believer. The Risen Christ is peace and joy to those turning to Him in faith, hope and love.

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Great and Holy Wednesday, April 18/May 1, 2024. Hidden Valley, Pennsylvania.  
Father Rodney Torbic