

## The Triumph of Truth

*“Taking all the evidence together, it is not too much to say that there is no single historic incident better or more variously supported than the resurrection of Christ.”* Linguist, B. F. Westcott of Cambridge University.

Easter reminds us that truth triumphs! Evil may have its ugly little day, but goodness wins in the end. Satan's forces may win some battles, but God's legions will win the war. That's Easter! It looked as if sin was the victor- Christ on the cross, love and truth crucified. It must have seemed useless to do right if Christ himself could not win. But, three days later the sun broke upon an empty tomb – Truth had Triumphed!

We worship a living Savior not a dead one. No Gospel, no Christian faith, no Church and no New Testament would be possible without the resurrection. The claim that God raised Jesus from the dead would be too incredible to believe without indisputable evidence.

Today, as never before, the evidence is there for all who will examine it with an open mind and heart. Every possible argument against the resurrection has been addressed and answered by competent scholars, including historian Thomas Arnold, Prof. Simon Greenleaf of Harvard Law school, Dr. Craig Evans, Dr. Allison Trites, formerly from Acadia Divinity College, Lawyer, Frank Morrison, Dr. N. T. Wright and many others.

For me, one of the greatest proofs for the resurrection was a change that took place in the lives of the disciples. Following the crucifixion, they were downcast and dejected. As they looked at the battered, broken body of their beloved master, they did not share a gleam of hope. Christ was dead!

But then, a short time later we meet these same disciples, but what a change. They are absolutely fearless, overwhelmingly happy and planning the Christian conquest of the world. They swept across the ancient world defying persecution and rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer for the sake of Christ

There must have been a reason for the transformation of these early followers of Christ. Yes, Christ rose from the grave. The tomb was empty! What could account for the power and growth of the early church if Christ had not actually appeared to them? Impossible, unless they had actually seen the risen Christ face-to- face.

Never once did they deny their belief in the resurrection. Do you honestly think that this story was invented? Could you invent that story so that you would be crucified upside down like Peter, stoned to death like Stephen, head chopped off like Paul. Men will die for what they believe to be true. They will not die for what they know to be a lie.

But, don't just take my word for it. You also can have this same assurance. A personal relationship with the risen Christ provides the strongest evidence of all.

*“You ask me how I know he lives, he lives within my heart.”* A.H.Ackley

