

Pillar Events of Salvation

Part 2

5. The Resurrection

1 Corinthians 15:3–4 (KJV) — 3 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; 4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

Matthew 28:1–2 (KJV) — 1 In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre. 2 And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it

Matthew 28:3–6 (KJV) — 3 His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow: 4 And for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead men. 5 And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. 6 He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.

Charles Colton



I know the resurrection is a fact, and Watergate proved it to me. How? Because 12 men testified they had seen Jesus raised from the dead, then they proclaimed that truth for 40 years, never once denying it. Every one was beaten, tortured, stoned and put in prison. They would not have endured that if it weren't true. Watergate embroiled 12 of the most powerful men in the world-and they couldn't keep a lie for three weeks. You're telling me 12 apostles could keep a lie for 40 years? Absolutely impossible.

1 Corinthians 15:12–14 (KJV) — 12 Now if Christ be preached that he rose from the dead, how say some among you that there is no resurrection of the dead? 13 But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen: 14 And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain.

1 Corinthians 15:15–17 (KJV) — 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. 16 For if the dead rise not, then is not Christ raised: 17 **And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins.**

When Jesus was laid in the grave, Satan triumphed. He dared to hope that the Saviour would not take up His life again. He claimed the Lord's body, and set his guard about the tomb, seeking to hold Christ a prisoner. He was bitterly angry when his angels fled at the approach of the heavenly messenger. When he saw Christ come forth in triumph, he knew that his kingdom would have an end, and that he must finally die.

(The Desire of Ages, p. 782.4)

To the believer, Christ is the resurrection and the life. In our Saviour the life that was lost through sin is restored; for He has life in Himself to quicken whom He will. He is invested with the right to give immortality. The life that He laid down in humanity, He takes up again, and gives to humanity. “I am come,” He said, “that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.”

“Whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.” “Whoso eateth My flesh, and drinketh My blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day.” John 10:10; 4:14; John 6:54.

(The Desire of Ages, p. 786.4)

To the believer, death is but a small matter. Christ speaks of it as if it were of little moment. “If a man keep My saying, he shall never see death,” “he shall never taste of death.” To the Christian, death is but a sleep, a moment of silence and darkness. The life is hid with Christ in God, and “when Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with Him in glory.” John 8:51, 52; Colossians 3:4. (*The Desire of Ages*, p. 787.1)

John 10:17–19 (KJV) — 17 Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again.
18 No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father.
19 There was a division therefore again among the Jews for these sayings

Power is from: ἐξουσία (*exousia*) — Authority

take is from: λαμβάνω (*lambanō*)

received is from: λαμβάνω (*lambanō*)

Ephesians 1:18–20 (KJV) — 18 The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, 19 And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, 20 Which he [God] wrought in Christ, **when he raised him from the dead**, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places,

Acts 3:14–15 (KJV) — 14 But ye denied the Holy One and the Just, and desired a murderer to be granted unto you;
15 And killed the Prince of life, **whom God hath raised from the dead;** whereof we are witnesses.

Acts 4:10 (KJV) — 10 Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, **whom God raised from the dead**, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole.

Romans 6:4 (KJV) — 4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as **Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father**, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

Romans 10:9 (KJV) — 9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that **God hath raised** [ἐγείρω (*egeirō*)] **him from the dead**, thou shalt be saved.

**Galatians 1:1 (KJV) — 1 Paul, an apostle, (not of men,
neither by man, but by Jesus Christ, and **God the Father,**
who raised him from the dead;)**

5. The Ascension

John 7:33 (KJV) — 33 Then said Jesus unto them, Yet a little while am I with you, and then I go unto him that sent me.

John 16:28 (KJV) — 28 I came forth from the Father,
and am come into the world: again, I leave the world,
and go to the Father.

John 14:12 (KJV) — 12 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.

John 20:17 (KJV) — 17 Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God.

Psalm 24:7–10 (KJV) — 7 Lift up your heads, O ye gates;
and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of
glory shall come in. 8 Who is this King of glory? The
LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle.
9 Lift up your heads, O ye gates; even lift them up, ye
everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.
10 Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is
the King of glory. Selah.

All heaven was waiting to welcome the Saviour to the celestial courts. As He ascended, He led the way, and the multitude of captives set free at His resurrection followed. The heavenly host, with shouts and acclamations of praise and celestial song, attended the joyous train. (*The Desire of Ages*, p. 833.2)

As they drew near to the city of God, the challenge is given
by the escorting angels,— (*The Desire of Ages*, p. 833.3)

“Lift up your heads, O ye gates;

And be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors;

And the King of glory shall come in.” (*The Desire of Ages*, p. 833.4)

Joyfully the waiting sentinels respond,— (*The Desire of Ages*, p. 833.5)

“Who is this King of glory?” (*The Desire of Ages*, p. 833.6)

This they say, not because they know not who He is, but because they would hear the answer of exalted praise,—

(The Desire of Ages, p. 833.7)

“The Lord strong and mighty,

The Lord mighty in battle!

Lift up your heads, O ye gates;

Even lift them up, ye everlasting doors;

And the King of glory shall come in.” (*The Desire of Ages*, p. 833.8)

Again is heard the challenge, “Who is this King of glory?” for the angels never weary of hearing His name exalted. The escorting angels make reply,—

(The Desire of Ages, p. 833.9)

“The Lord of hosts;
He is the King of glory.” Psalm 24:7-10.
(The Desire of Ages, p. 833.10)

Then the portals of the city of God are opened wide, and the angelic throng sweep through the gates amid a burst of rapturous music. (*The Desire of Ages*, p. 833.11)

There is the throne, and around it the rainbow of promise. There are cherubim and seraphim. The commanders of the angel hosts, the sons of God, the representatives of the unfallen worlds, are assembled. The heavenly council before which Lucifer had accused God and His Son, the representatives of those sinless realms over which Satan had thought to establish his dominion,—all are there to welcome the Redeemer. They are eager to celebrate His triumph and to glorify their King. (*The Desire of Ages*, p. 834.1)

But He waves them back. Not yet; He cannot now receive the coronet of glory and the royal robe. He enters into the presence of His Father. He points to His wounded head, the pierced side, the marred feet; He lifts His hands, bearing the print of nails. He points to the tokens of His triumph; He presents to God the wave sheaf, those raised with Him as representatives of that great multitude who shall come forth from the grave at His second coming. He approaches the Father, with whom there is joy over one sinner that repents; who rejoices over one with singing.

Before the foundations of the earth were laid, the Father and the Son had united in a covenant to redeem man if he should be overcome by Satan. They had clasped Their hands in a solemn pledge that Christ should become the surety for the human race. This pledge Christ has fulfilled. When upon the cross He cried out, **“It is finished,”** He addressed the Father.

The compact had been fully carried out. Now He declares:
Father, **it is finished**. I have done Thy will, O My God. I have
completed the work of redemption. If Thy justice is satisfied,
“I will that they also, whom Thou hast given Me, be with Me
where I am.” John 19:30; 17:24. (*The Desire of Ages*, p. 834.2)

Luke 24:33–36 (KJV) — 33 And they rose up the same hour, and returned to Jerusalem, and found the eleven gathered together, and them that were with them, 34 Saying, The Lord is risen indeed, and hath appeared to Simon. 35 And they told what things were done in the way, and how he was known of them in breaking of bread. 36 And as they thus spake, Jesus himself stood in the midst of them, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.

Luke 24:37–39 (KJV) — 37 But they were terrified and affrighted, and supposed that they had seen a spirit. 38 And he said unto them, Why are ye troubled? and why do thoughts arise in your hearts? 39 Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: **handle me**, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have.

John 20:27 (KJV) — 27 Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and **reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side:** and be not faithless, but believing.

Acts 1:3 (KJV) — 3 To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:

Mark 16:19 (KJV) — 19 So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God.

Acts 1:9 (KJV) — 9 And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.

I serve a risen Savior, He's in the world today
I know that He is living, whatever men may say
I see His hand of mercy, I hear His voice of cheer
And just the time I need Him, He's always near

Refrain:

He lives, he lives, Christ Jesus lives today!

He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.

He lives, he lives, salvation to impart!

You ask me how I know he lives?

He lives within my heart.

In all the world around me I see His loving care
And tho' my heart grows weary, I never will despair
I know that He is leading thro' all the stormy blast
The day of His approaching will come at last

Refrain:

He lives, he lives, Christ Jesus lives today!

He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.

He lives, he lives, salvation to impart!

You ask me how I know he lives?

He lives within my heart.

Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian, lift up your voice and sing

Eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ the King!

The hope of all who seek Him, the help of all who find

None other is so loving, so good and kind.

Refrain:

He lives, he lives, Christ Jesus lives today!

He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.

He lives, he lives, salvation to impart!

You ask me how I know he lives?

He lives within my heart.

