

"CHRIST: OUR RISEN SAVIOUR"**Introduction**

1. The resurrection: what is meant?
2. Christ's unique resurrection.
3. Frank Morrison's experience.

1. CHRIST'S RESURRECTION IS OUR ANSWER TO DOUBTERS

- 1) This Epistle deals with many errors.
- 2) In particular, that Christians hope in vain for any future resurrection of their body:
 - (i) v.12: "some" – their poisonous influence
 - (ii) Such teachers there were and are: 2 Timothy 2:16-18
OBSERVE: Doubts can poison us. **ILLUSTRATION**: "canker".
APPLICATION: Too many churches are poisoned.
- 3) Paul shows up the folly of this doubt:
v.13: Christ; v.14: faith; v.15: falsehood; v.7: in our sins;
v.18: perished; v.19: hopeless and deluded
- 4) The Apostle's affirmation: see our TEXT
APPLICATION: O rejoice that Christ is risen!

2. CHRIST'S RESURRECTION IS PROOF BELIEVERS WILL RISE

- 1) "Firstfruits": Explain.
- 2) "Them that slept". The saints. Death is regarded as a sleep for believers.
- 3) The Gospel narratives:

- (i) Jairus' daughter: Mark 5:22f
- (ii) The widow of Nain's son: Luke 7:11f
- (iii) Lazarus: John 11

4) Reasons why believers must rise:

- (i) they are united to Christ
- (ii) Christ has redeemed soul and body
- (iii) God has described the changes in this very chapter: v.42f
- (iv) in Christ we have the victory over death
- (v) this rising is connected to the Last Day and its great events: v.51f.

OBSERVE: Both OT and NT saints have this hope:
Acts 23:6

3. CHRIST'S RESURRECTION IS A MOTIVE FOR SERVICE

- 1) Christ's religion is a happy one, full of hope and full of joy:
 - (i) after death: our soul in glory;
 - (ii) after the return of Christ: our body also in glory
- 2) So this chapter ends with a very practical word of encouragement: v.57-58.
- 3) The things here are most important:
 - (i) stedfast: working steadily
 - (ii) unmoveable: not giving up
 - (iii) abounding in the Lord's work!
 - (iv) not in vain: fruit now - glory after!
APPLICATION: Then let us do service to Christ with all happiness, hopefulness and good-will.

CONCLUSION

Listen to Christ's words in John 6:39-40.

PSALM

24: 7 – 10

68: 17 – 20

16: 8 - 11