

AN EASTER MEDITATION

1 Cor. 15:20; "But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept."

The Great Fact

At Easter time it is always good to think about the great central fact upon which the Christian religion is based--the fact that Jesus Christ rose from the dead.

Christianity is not merely a set of precepts for living. It is not simply a philosophy of life. It is not merely some man's idea. Peter tells us that we have not been taught cunningly devised fables (2 Pet. 1: 16), but that the apostles were actually eye-witnesses of the majesty of the Lord. They saw him risen from the dead. Christianity rests upon historical events.

In these days of widespread skepticism, when the factual basis of the Bible is so widely denied, it is good to recall that our religion is a religion of fact. It is based upon things that actually happened.

Someone has called the resurrection of Christ the best-established fact in history. Certainly the evidence for it is overwhelming.

The First Fruits

It is a terrible shock when a loved one dies. Only a short time ago he was talking with us, he was active, he was taking a vital part in our lives; now he lies dead. You lift the hand and it falls back of itself. The eyes are open, but there is no sight in them. You speak, and there is no answer. The spirit has departed.