

EASTER DAY Rise let us be going - Mark 14:42

The priest cannot walk through the granite altar of Holy Trinity Church. Laws of matter and space prohibit it.

We cannot reverse the biological processes of our life. We can only stand by as witnesses of it. We can see it in a mirror.

The resurrection is such a reversal. It is a miracle, which by definition breaks the natural order.

Resurrection is a total transformation which preserves all that gives us meaning and identity as a person. That is, our "life in the body", "neplesh", the core of what it means to be a particular human.

Behind resurrection stands the belief that our identity is worth preserving. Suicide hangs up a shingle that says "All hope is lost". Resurrection says that hope is never lost because it claims that personal identity is perpetuated.

We cling to life, and rightly so. We never want the sun to set on our identity. Resurrection says that this desire is in tune with God's desire for us. The search for companionship never ends. Christ renewed contacts with his friends in his resurrection appearances. He had risen not just to be looked at but to relate and to respond.

We believe that he still does this with us in prayer. We pray as children of the resurrection who want to converse with our Lord.

Resurrection is like ascending and descending Jacob's ladder to heaven. It links heaven and earth. We make this connection in our earthly journey or we do not make it at all. Unlike other eastern religions, Christianity does not espouse reincarnation.

We do not expect Christ to return as anything other than himself. This has negated reincarnation in Christianity. For us the journey ends in God, and with Christ.

We believe that his offering of himself linked us to the heart of the Father. We seek not Nirvana but a never-ending growth in Christ, to use the Pauline term.

We are in Christ, we will continue in Christ and we will find our rest in him. That is what Resurrection is all about. We will never be perfect, but we will trust in the saving grace of Christ to soften our weaknesses and placard our strengths in the presence and forbearance of God.

Bishop Arthur Jones

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

Acts 2:14a, 22-32; Psalm 16; 1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31

TO PLAN:

April 26, Tuesday.

- Bible Study, 10am
- Bible Study, 7:15pm @ the Tutton's (#3 Sta. Potenciana, Urdaneta Village)

April 28, Thursday.

 Midweek Eucharist, 10am, Chapel