

The words death and resurrection go hand in hand in our Christian faith. Many of us wear a cross that signifies the breaking of the curse of sin and sin's eternal consequence, death. Just as powerful is the empty tomb, Jesus is Risen.

Jesus rose again by the power of the Holy Spirit. He is God incarnate and no power on earth or in the spiritual realms could kill Jesus the Christ. Where is the proof in our time that Jesus lives? He showed himself to 500, but that was 2000 plus years ago. He lives because we invite Him into every aspect of our lives, and He comes in. He lives because we invite him to heal and transform us, so we are like him; and He starts this on our hearts by showing us His love.

He lives because we now know that God is our loving Father; Jesus made that knowing happen. The evidence that He is alive, is beyond words. In our hearts is that assurance that we belong to God, wrapped up in His mercy, secure in His grace; this is living His salvation.

*Hold fast the message . . . Unless you have come to believe in vain.*

*He has been raised; He is not here.*

The disciples thought that all was lost. They thought this awesome guy, who had turned their lives upside down, was gone. He did amazing things, and He taught a faith in God that was revolutionary and out of this world. They truly believed He was the Messiah, the Son of God, they witnessed it all.

Now all they had was a body in an empty tomb. What is amazing is that God meets us in our weaknesses, in our failures. When we are gazing into an empty tomb of hopelessness, He says, "Don't look into that pit of despair, wait for me and I will meet with you and sup with you and I will put my Spirit within you."

When Jesus did meet the disciples, He breathed on them. Just as he breathed life into Adam, He breaths His life into us and forever more we cry. He is Risen indeed, not because someone told us, but because He truly has come to us and has made Himself known to us.

Thus, we are also among the many who are His witnesses.