



The Message of the Holy Feast of Resurrection

24 Baramudah 1737 – 2 May 2021

Christ is Risen – Truly He is Risen

Pikhrastos Aftonf! Khristos Anesti! Al Masih Kam! Christ is Risen!



Verse of the Message: “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live”¹.

Title of the Message:” The aggregate actions of the Resurrection of Christ”.

My beloved in the Lord, the loving of Christ, Priests and Congregation of the Diocese of Sydney and its Affiliated Regions, ***Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ***². I would love to wish you all, the blessings of the Resurrection of Christ our Lord.

In the Resurrection Message this year, we can have many lessons:

let us work hard to nourish our souls with virtues not sins. Let us not fear from death, as it is not the end of our lives. We need to be Christ like as He redeemed us. It is the Church of God that will serve our Salvation, so let us be Church genuine goers. Let us make our main priority is to love God and serve Him with meekness. While doing all the above, it is significant to learn the language of our destination, the happy Eternal life, the language of praising God.

= The Resurrection of Christ proved the Theology or the science that belongs to God:

Jesus Christ our Lord answered the Sadducees who say there is no resurrection, ***“But concerning the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was spoken to You by God saying, “I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob? God is not the God of the dead, but of the Living”³.***

According to our beliefs, Our God is the God of living. Death is only a bridge to the Eternal Holy Life, which requires from us to live the life which is according to the Soul, as **St. Athanasius⁴ wrote:” Now the soul is humbled when it does not follow wicked opinions, but feeds on becoming virtues. For virtues and vices are the food of the soul. And it can eat either of these two meals, and incline to either of the two, according to its own will. If it is bent toward virtue, it will be nourished by virtues, by righteousness, by**

¹ John 11:25.

² 1 Thessalonians 1:1.

³ Matthew 22:31-32.

⁴ St. Athanasius, Festal Letters, Letter One in the year 329, NPNF, 2nd ser., P. 508.

temperance, by meekness, by fortitude, as Paul said, " being nourished by the word of Truth", Such was the case with our Lord who said' My meal is to do the will of My Father who is in heaven", but if it is not thus with the soul, and it inclines downwards, it is then nourished by nothing but sin".

= The Resurrection of Christ proved the Anthropology or the science that belongs to man:

Jesus Christ our Lord answered Martha, ***"I am the Resurrection and life, He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live"***⁵.

So, as believers, even all of us will experience death, but if we lived according to the soul, we shall live in life after death.

= The Resurrection of Christ proved the Christology or the science that belongs to Christ:

Jesus Christ our Lord answered the Jews who accused him that he has a demon, and they are proud that Abraham is their father, ***" Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad, Then the Jews said to Him, ' You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham? Jesus said to them, ' Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM"***⁶.

Our Lord Jesus Christ is before Abraham, as He is The Logos of God who was incarnated and became a man, and was crucified on the Cross to save us, exactly like the lamb who was slain by Abraham and saved his son Isaac.

= The Resurrection of Christ proved the Soteriology or the science that belongs to the Salvation that Christ our Lord made for us.

Jesus Christ our Lord answered Nicodemus the person who is a member in the Sanhedrim and believed in Christ, ***" For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life"***⁷.

No salvation without the blood of Christ, which is shed on the Cross, to save us.

= The Resurrection of Christ proved the Ecclesiology or the Science that belongs to the church.

Jesus Christ our Lord answered St. Peter and said to him, ***" And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. "***⁸.

And no salvation outside the church and its Sacraments.

⁵ John 11: 25.

⁶ John 8: 56-58.

⁷ John 3:16.

⁸ Matthew 16:18.

= The Resurrection of Christ proved the Eschatology or the science that belongs to the life after death.

Jesus Christ our Lord said to St. Peter who, and the disciples of Christ left all and followed Jesus, Jesus Christ said to him, ***“ Assuredly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My sake and the gospel’s, who shall not receive a hundredfold now in this time- houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life”⁹.***

Those who make their priority to love and serve our Lord Jesus Christ with patience in hardships, will receive the Eternal Life,

= The Resurrection of Christ proved the Ministry of the Angels.

The Angel of Jesus Christ our Lord said to Mary Magdalene and the other Mary who came to see the tomb of Christ, ***“ Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was Crucified. He is not here; for He is Risen, as He said...”¹⁰.***

The believers who train themselves to the life of praises and purity, while being on earth, the Angels will be their friends and introduce them to our Lord Jesus Christ.

= End of the Message.

Now may the Lord of **peace** Himself give **you peace** always in every way. The Lord **be with you** all¹¹.

Pikhrastos Aftonf! Khristos Anesti! Al Masih Kam! Christ is Risen!

Stay blessed in the Love of The Lord.

Bishop Daniel,

With the Grace of God,

Bishop of the Coptic Orthodox Church - Diocese of Sydney and its Affiliated Regions.

⁹ Mark 10:28-30.

¹⁰ Matthew 28:5-6.

¹¹ 2 Thessalonians 3:16