

## Christ Has Risen

1 Corinthians 15:20 "But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead"

THE whole system of Christianity rests upon the fact that "Christ has been raised from the dead," for "If Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith . . . you are still in your sins." The *divinity* of Christ finds its surest proof in His resurrection, since "through the Spirit of holiness he was declared with power to be the Son of God, by his resurrection from the dead." It would not be unreasonable to doubt His Deity if He had not been raised. Moreover, Christ's *sovereignty* depends upon His resurrection: "For this very reason, Christ died and returned to life so that he might be the Lord of both the dead and living." Again, our *justification*, that choice blessing of the covenant, is linked with Christ's triumphant victory over death and the grave, for "He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification." More than that, our very *regeneration* is connected with His resurrection, for "he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead." And most certainly our *ultimate resurrection* rests here, for, "If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, who lives in you." If Christ has not been raised, then shall we not be raised; but if He is risen then they who are asleep in Christ have not perished, but in their flesh they shall surely behold their God. Thus, the silver thread of resurrection runs through all the believer's blessings, from his regeneration onward to his eternal glory, and binds them together. How important then will this glorious fact be in his estimation, and how will he rejoice that beyond a doubt it is established, that "Christ has indeed been raised from the dead."

The promise is fulfill'd,  
Redemption's work is done,  
Justice with mercy's reconciled,  
For God has raised His Son.

(Morning by Morning May 10, C.H. Spurgeon)