



**12 - 18 Apr, 2020**

**Jesus Christ, the Life and the Resurrection, part 2**

**‘O death, where is thy sting? O Hades, where is thy victory?  
Christ is Risen, and you, O death, are annihilated!  
Christ is Risen, and the evil ones are cast down!  
Christ is Risen, and the angels rejoice!  
Christ is Risen, and life is liberated!’ St John Chrysostom**

**Resurrection came after the Cross**

**To be resurrected with Jesus Christ, we need to follow Him**

**Jesus Christ said there are two steps to follow Him (Mt 16:24)**

- 1. to deny oneself is to empty ourselves from ourselves and to be filled with Christ**
- 2. to carry one’s cross; carry it the way Jesus did knowing that He is with us and beside us**

**Charles Malik says we have to carry our crosses daily, die with Jesus daily, to be able to be resurrected daily**

- † We can reach the glory God has prepared for us only by carrying our crosses in our daily life**
- † Charles Malik finds it silly when people console each other saying words such as ‘bear your troubles’, ‘our deepest sympathy’, ‘this is life’, etc... and finds that there is no real consolation in these words even if the people saying them really mean what they are saying. Our sole consolation and our only hope is in the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, and that now He is alive in every sense of the word, alive and ready to save us in everything if we believe in Him and follow Him**

**The apostles and disciples of Christ left everything and followed Christ**

- † Simon and Andrew ‘Come, follow Me, Jesus said, and I will send you out to fish for people. At once they left their nets and followed Him’ (Mt 4:19-20)**

- † James and John, sons of Zebedee ‘Without delay He called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed Him’ (*Mt 4:21b-22 NIV*)
- † Zacchaeus ‘But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount’ (*Lk 19:8*)
- † ‘And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My name’s sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life’ (*Mt 19:29*)
- † Priscilla and Aquila
  - They lived, worked and traveled with the Apostle Paul, who described them as his ‘fellow workers in Christ Jesus’ (*Acts 18:2-3*)
  - They migrated several times fleeing from persecution and for missionary purposes (*Acts 18:18*)
  - They spoke in a gentle and truthful way. ‘They took Apollos aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately’ (*Acts 18:26*)
  - Their home was a meeting place for the Church in Ephesus and Rome. It was always open to people who wanted to learn more about Christ (*1Cor 16:19*)
  - They risked their lives to save Paul’s life (*Rom 16:3-4*)
  - They were martyred together

**The Fruits of our Lord’s Resurrection are countless and priceless**  
**(Mt 13:44-46)**

- † Our Lord’s resurrection has put us right with Him. Sinners as we are, Jesus has put us right with the Father. Although our weaknesses have not changed, we are no longer God’s enemies, but we are reconciled with Him. Yes, we, all of us sinners (*Rom 5:6-11*)
- † We are free from the power of sin not because we deserve to but because we received it as a grace through the Lord’s resurrection. ‘After the one sin came the judgment of the ‘Guilty’; but after so many sins, comes the undeserved gift of ‘Not Guilty’ (*Rom 5:16*)
- † We are free of death. ‘Death is destroyed; victory is complete. Where, death is your victory? Where, death is your power to hurt?’

Death gets its power to hurt from sin.' (1Cor 15: 54b-56, Rom 5: 12-19)

- † No more condemnation for those who live in union with Christ (Rom 8: 1-8; 31-35)
- † We have complete victory through our Lord Who loves us unconditional love (Rom 8:37-39)

### Bibliography

1. "13. Side by Side - The Story of Aquila and Priscilla." Bible.org. Accessed April 9, 2020. <https://bible.org/seriespage/side-side%E2%80%94story-aquila-and-priscillai>. From the series: Living in Love: Secrets from Bible Marriages
2. Unless otherwise noted, all Biblical passages referenced are from the New King James Version

### Legend



Refers to mandatory readings

### Verse to memorize

'Whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it' Matthew 16:25

### In my Prayer and Faith Autobiography Book

## God acts

- † Christ gave His life so that we might have life abundantly

## My reaction

- † Am I going to put Christ first and give Him my all?
- † Am I going to throw away whatever hinders me from following Christ?

### During the coming week, let us pray expectantly

1. seeking the Lord's will to be done in Lebanon
2. for CrossTalk to find a locale
3. for David, Gisele, Habib and Karim
4. to become more of saints and less of sinners
5. to seek the Lord in every word I say, every act I do and every thought I think
6. to help in building His Kingdom by building His Church on earth
7. to deny ourselves, carry our cross and follow Him
8. to thank Him for creating us and each one around us, on His image and likeness, and choosing us to reveal His splendor
9. to all the sick
10. to all those in prison

11. to the unity of the Christians

12. to one another to be honest and not lack integrity

13. to put all that we have in the Lord's hands trusting His management

14. to all the Christians who are being persecuted, and to those who are persecuting them

15. to all families, that the Lord unites the parents together in His Name and stops all fights

16. to the situation in Lebanon, Syria, Egypt, Iraq and the whole region

**During this coming week, we will lift the Greek Orthodox Church in prayer**

الصلاة الربانية	قانون الايمان
أبانا الذي في السموات	أومن بباله واحد،
ليتقدس إسمك	أب ضابط الكل، خالق السماء والأرض
ليأت ملكوتك	كل ما يرى وما لا يرى،
لتكن مشيئتك	وبرب واحد يسوع المسيح، ابن الله الوحيد،
كما في السماء	المولود من الأب قبل كل الدهور،
كذلك على الأرض	نور من نور، إله حق من إله حق،
خبرنا الجوهري أعطنا اليوم	مولود غير مخلوق
واترك لنا ما علينا	مساوٍ للأب في الجوهر، الذي به كان كل شيء
كما نترك نحن	الذي من أجلنا نحن البشر ومن أجل خلاصنا
لمن لنا عليه	نزل من السماء
ولا ندخلنا في تجربة	وتجسد من الروح القدس ومن مريم العذراء وتأنس
لكن نجنا من الشرير	وصلب عنا على عهد بيلاطس البنطي
أمين	وتألم وقبر وقام في اليوم الثالث على ما في الكتب
	وصعد إلى السماء وجلس عن يمين الأب
	وأيضاً يأتي بمجد لتدين الأحياء والأموات،
	الذي لا فناء لملكه
	وبالروح القدس، الرب المحيي،
	المنتق من الأب،
	الذي هو مع الأب والإبن،
	مسجود له وممجّد،
	الناطق بالأنبياء
	وبكنيسة واحدة، جامعة، مقدسة، رسولية
	وأعترف بمعمودية واحدة لمغفرة الخطايا
	وأترجى قيامة الموتى والحياة في الدهر الآتي
	أمين