

Easter Sermon

Dear friends in Jesus Christ, A man once spent many years building a beautiful house. He worked day and night, sacrificed his time, and invested everything he had. Finally, when the house was complete, people came to admire it. But one day, a strong storm came, and within a few hours, the house collapsed. Later, it was discovered that the foundation had been weak from the beginning. Everything looked strong from the outside, but the base was not secure. All his effort, all his work, became meaningless because the foundation failed. This is exactly what Saint Paul the Apostle says If Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. In simple words, if the Resurrection is not true, then everything we believe, everything we practice, everything we preach has no foundation. But dear friends, Christianity is not built on an idea. It is built on an event, a real, historical event, that is to say the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Let me give you an example. After the death of Jesus, the disciples were not courageous preachers. They were afraid, confused, and hiding behind closed doors. Saint Peter, who once promised to die with Jesus, denied Him three times. The others ran away. These were not men ready to start a movement. They were broken and fearful. And yet, something changed them completely. Within a short time, these same men came out into the streets and fearlessly proclaimed that Jesus is alive. They were beaten, imprisoned, and even killed—but they never denied the Resurrection. History tells us that most of the apostles died as martyrs. Their courage is one of the real-life witnesses that the Resurrection is not just a story but it is the truth. Dear friends, Easter is not just one celebration among many. It is the foundation of our faith. Without the Resurrection, Christianity becomes just a set of teachings, just moral advice, just another philosophy. It would be like reading a beautiful book of advice. It may guide us, it may challenge us, it may even comfort us for a time. But it would not have the power to transform our lives from within. It would remain at the level of ideas, not reality. That is why Saint Paul the Apostle speaks so strongly. For him, the Resurrection is not an optional belief—it is the very heart of our faith. Without it, Christianity loses its power, its purpose, and its promise. For example think of it this way. There are many motivational speakers in the world. They tell us, Be strong, Stay positive, Never give up. Their words are helpful. But when we face real suffering, real loss, or even death, those words alone are not enough. But Jesus does not just give advice—He gives life. He does not just say, Do not be afraid. He conquers the very thing we fear most, that is death itself. He does not just say, I will be with you. He proves it by rising from the dead and remaining alive forever. Without the Resurrection, the Cross would look like a failure. It would be a story of suffering without victory, a sacrifice without fulfillment. But because of the Resurrection, the Cross becomes a sign of hope, a sign of love, and a sign of triumph. There is a simple example. Imagine a doctor who gives a prescription but has no cure. His words may sound convincing, but if no one is healed, people will eventually lose trust. But if the

doctor not only speaks but also heals, then his words carry authority. Similarly it is because of Christ is risen, our faith is alive, our faith is powerful, and full of hope. Think about it. If Jesus had only died on the Cross and remained in the tomb, then sin would still have the final word, suffering would still have the final word, and death would still have the final word. But Easter changes everything. The Resurrection declares that sin is forgiven, suffering is not meaningless, and death is not the end. In the Old Testament, we see how God repeatedly brings life out of impossible situations. Think of Abraham and Sarah, who were old and had no child, yet God gave them new life through Isaac. Think of the Israelites standing before the Red Sea, with no way forward, yet God opened a path for them. All these were signs pointing to something greater—the ultimate victory of life over death in the Resurrection of Christ. Dear friends, this truth is not just theological; it is deeply personal. Because Christ is risen, your struggles are not the end of your story. Because Christ is risen, your sins can be forgiven. Because Christ is risen, your failures can become new beginnings. However sometimes we live as if Christ is not risen. We celebrate Easter. We sing Alleluia. We hear the message, He is risen. But when we go back to our daily lives, something changes. Our words say one thing, but our lives say another. If Christ is truly risen, then our lives should reflect hope. But many times, we live in fear. We worry constantly about the future, as if everything depends only on us. We become anxious about small things, as if God is not in control. When we live like that, our faith becomes weak, like that house with a weak foundation. So dear friends today, as we stand in the joy of Easter, we are invited to make a decision—not just to celebrate the Resurrection, but to live it. Let us not be like that man who built his house on a weak foundation. Let us build our lives on the strongest foundation of the risen Christ. Because when our life is built on Him, storms may come, struggles may rise, difficulties may shake us, but we will not fall.

Amen