

On the Resurrection of Jesus.

Passing the news stand the Herald Headline caught my eye” Why Christianity us in Crisis”. As former clergy man I bought it.

The church is in crisis because New Testament theology is ceasing to be credible and cannot speak to the modern age. As it was Easter it was perhaps opportune to take the Resurrection as a case in point.

We know:-

- that Jesus believed that he would return within the life time of those who stood before him .
- that Paul believed in his imminent return because he made several references to it.
- That as those who had heard the “Authentic voice of the living Christ “ began to pass away, those who remained began to ask about “the promise if his coming”.
- that the answer given by Peter was, that “one day with the Lord is as thousand years and a thousand years as one day” and that he had delayed his coming because he “was not willing that any should perish”. i.e. go to everlasting hell.

Clearly Peter is telling his readers the words of Jesus cannot be taken at the face value.

2000 years have passed since Jesus said he would return within the life time of those who knew him

Given the passage of time it is fair to conclude that he cannot return because he was not resurrected. He is dead. He cannot come again.

It is surely time that the Clergy acknowledged the truth of the matter, and freed people up to, to dump the theology and lay hands on the things that really matter and of which the New Testament speaks namely; “the things that are pure.... and good lovelyand good report”. Things like; justice, truth, compassion and hope; which commend themselves to all Mankind.

The only kind of resurrection that matters is that something of the ethical spirit of Jesus, and other spiritual leaders, be resurrected in the heart of every one of us

What is needed is not talk of:- Fathers, Sons, Holy Ghosts, Virgin Births, Sacrificial Crucifixions, Resurrections, Eternal damnations, and Second Comings.

What the world needs is a “New Global Spirituality” which lays it hands on the Spiritual virtues of; Justice, Truth, Compassion, and Hope and which looks to the Globalisation of Spiritual and Ethical Secularism.

Mankind is outgrowing the theology of the New Testament. It is a broken reed.

Only the practice of Virtue will save the Human race. It is our only hope.

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