

same spirit of life that animated Christ. We may rise into obedience to the same ideals that commanded him. We may rise into the same faith and hope and love which shone so resplendent in all he said and did. We may rise into the same life of communion and oneness with God which he manifested so perfectly.

What is the true Christian life except a constant rising with Christ,—rising from the lower to the higher; rising from passion and impulse, to reason and conscience and principle; rising from obedience to self, to obedience to God; rising from following the pattern of the world, to striving after the higher pattern which we have in Jesus? How great is the need for us all thus to rise with Christ in a living and perpetual resurrection!

And how great is the need also for *communities* and *nations* to rise with Christ! What would that mean? It would mean rising to social virtue and to national honor; rising to governments and civilizations based not on money, or luxury, or pride, or power, or any material thing, but on intelligence and order, on justice and refinement, on virtue and the elevation of all the people. It would mean rising to the triumph of love over hate, of generosity over selfishness, of good over evil, of peace over war, of fairness and right over bayonets and war ships, of humanity over cruelty, of the school house and the church over the prison, of the tear of pity over the stony heart of indifference, of the open hand of the friend over the clenched fist of the foe.

In all this we see what is a true Easter. Easter is not simply a day to commemorate a past resurrection, but to realize a present resurrection. It is not alone a day in which to thank God that Christ arose; it is a day on which to rise with him to a higher life in our own souls, and to set forth with a deeper consecration to give the Christ-ideal to society and to the world.