

# PLEASANT HOURS

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THE RESURRECTION.

## THE LORD IS RISEN INDEED.

This is the glad salutation with which we welcome the glorious Easter-day. What blessed truths are wrapped up in this the church's watchword, which is repeated all along the ages by the believing sons of men. He, the Lord of life, died once for us. He is thus transformed death. It is no longer, what before it seemed to be, the end of all life, the dark hopeless gulf into

which our hopes, our labours, our loves descend, never more to return. Death is proved to be but an experience of life. He died once. He liveth ever. He is the living Christ. Do we really believe this? Has this truth taken possession of our hearts, dispelled our fears, inspired our work? What room is there for unbelief and despondency? Can he ever fail us? Is he not more than sufficient for our utmost

need? Do we live in him? Oh that we were lifted out of the cold dead formalism in which we have been held; and that we felt the quickening power of the life of the living one. May he grant us all this Easter blessing. May we awake to a new hope and a new life, a life of unselfish devotion, a life of holiness and goodness, a life which death will only come to usher into its glad fruition and completeness.

A LITTLE shepherd-boy in Syria learned the Gospel from the missionaries. When he went out with his flock on the mountains he preached to the shepherds and begged them to give up lying and swearing, and love the Saviour. One day he went to the missionary and said, "Yu Sidi, these shepherds won't hear the Gospel. But one of them will. I fastened to him and would not give him up. and now he likes to hear."