

every shred of historical testimony to our Lord's resurrection. The empty tomb, the recorded meetings and conversations, are accepted by us as reliable proofs; but more than all these do we value the living voice that speaks to us calling us by name and thrilling our hearts as we now realize the presence of Jesus. That living voice, that living presence is the surest token, to believers at least, that Jesus has arisen. The voice that call us to a better life; the voice that soothes our sorrows; the voice that wins us to cheerful recognition and loving adoration of the Christ, is not the voice of the dead but of the living. It is a voice, not from the tomb, but from the very centre of life. Not from the rock-hewn grave has Jesus spoken with such power. His voice has been powerfully resounding through time and space. In nineteen centuries its quickening power has not been diminished. It has called by name men and women in all grades of social and intellectual standing and they joyously responded to the call. It has gone out to the islands of the sea, to the sin-burdened, to the sin-hardened. In the dry desert, in the field of battle, on the bed of death men have consciously heard that voice calling them by name, and the sound has brought the blessed assurance that the Saviour has arisen, that He lives in eternal majesty, and with His life-giving powers undiminished.

O, blessed Easter Morn! Thy beams have brought us joy and gladness. They speed across the world. And farther yet do they gleam. They penetrate the darkness of the unseen world. As by a search-light they reveal a future life. They show its certainty at least, though shadows still lie behind. And amid such radiance as this the shout of triumphant hope is irresistible: "O Death! where is thy sting? O Grave! where is thy victory? Thanks be to God who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."