

# Feel the scent of Resurrection . . . !

IYCS Theological Reflection, April 2017, Father Charles Menezes

*Alleluia ! The Lord is risen from the dead !*

“ « I have seen the Lord » and she told them that he had said these things to her!”  
(Jn 20 :18) – Mary Magdalene



see . . .

**The Earth:** The rifles are vomiting bullets. The Hawkers (war planes) are roaring in the sky. The bombs are showering fire. Human bombs are exploding shimmering blood. Ambulances running around and the sirens are ringing. Earth is crumbling down due to natural calamities; Eco system is degrading due to human selfishness; Sea waters are rising and small islands are marooning; Vegetation is depleting as industries are emanating thick black smokes; Flora and fauna is disappearing from the face of the earth.

**Humans:** Some are killing; some are getting killed; some are fuming with anger; some are crying; some are crumbling under heap of stones and mud ; some are trying to revive the hearts ; some are breathing their last ; some are carrying the dead ; some are looking up to the sky their tears dried up ; some are wondering whether this is the plan of God.

Some are hoarding money while some are spending lavishly ; some are over eating, drinking while some are starving ; some are making merry while some are depressed ; some are exposing their skins while some are trying to cover themselves with what little they have ; some feel secure while some are always insecure.

**God:** Someone says My God is the strongest and all must surrender to him; another says My God is the merciful and you need to bow before him; someone says there is no God and don't fool the people in the name of God; someone is creating a God who would fit into the present system to make a lot of wealth. Altogether, all seem to be using God for their own reason and according to their own understanding.



In this situation where do you find Liberation; where do you find Resurrection; where do you find salvation? Does anything of it make sense to you?

I am the resurrection and life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live.  
(Jn 11:25)

What does life consist of?

## For the secular world

### Power/ Boss over

I am the boss and you must obey me - « All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me » (Mt 4 :9)

### Ego/ Self justification

I am big and I know everything – « Do you not know that I have the power to release you, and power to crucify you? » (Jn 19:10)

### Money/ Property

Money rules the world. With money anything can be done – « For where your treasure is, there your heart will also be » (Mt 6:21)

### Secular Knowledge/ Wisdom

I know everything and I am the master – 'the knowledge man possesses tends to make one proud' - "Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up" (1 Corinthians 8:1).

### Security/ People around

I have my people around me and that is enough for me. I am secure with them – « I will pull down my barns and build larger ones.....You fool for this very night your life is being demanded of you » (Lk 12 : 18-20)

### Arguments/ Justification

I am always good – « I am not like others ..... » (Lk 18: 11-12)

### Beauty/ Showy

I am the most beautiful – « Your beauty should not come from outward adornment .....it should be that of your inner self » – (1 Pet 3: 3-4)

### Business/ Busy

I am a too busy person –« Do not worry about tomorrow....today's trouble is enough for today » (Mt 6: 34)

## For Jesus

### Sacrifice

I must die that you may have life – « Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit » (Jn 12: 24)

### Loosing oneself

Die to yourself and you will have life in heaven – « For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it » (Mk 8:35)

### Servant Leadership

I have come to serve and not to be served - "If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all." (Mk 9: 35)

### Humility

Be merciful and humble of heart – « Blessed are the meek for they will inherit the earth » (Mt 5:5)

### Good Samaritan

Help the poor. He is your neighbour – (Lk 10:25-37)

### Cross

Carrying your Cross is the only way to achieve heaven – « Come to me all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest » (Mt 11:28)

### Death

Die to this world and live for eternity – « Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life » (Jn 12:25)



Are you ready to die to your - SELF, your Ego ; self-centredness ; self-justification ; Sin ; wretchedness ; possession ; people ; power ; worldly knowledge – that you may have life?

Are you ready to die for others and - Be a Good Samaritan; A good neighbour; A good servant; A martyr; Another Christ.

**By doing this you will feel the scent of Resurrection!!!**

*« You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say..... God raised him up having freed him from death »*

*(Acts 2:22-24) Simon Peter*

**May the Risen Lord bless you all. Alleluia.**

### Questions:

1. How and where do you see Jesus in the other, especially in the poor and marginalized?
2. How do you value dying for others? Why ?
3. What is your action to experience resurrection of your inner SELF?