Resurrection of Christ

As Doctrine

Features of the Forty Days
1. Reaction of Christ’s Enemies
2. Choice of Persons who saw Christ
3. Appearance to our Lady
4. Why not continually?
5. Role of the Angels
6. Why forty days?
7. Role of Mary Magdalen
8. Appearance or appearance
9. Christ’s studied effort to demonstrate reality of the resurrection
10. Role of Thomas the Apostle
11. Prelude to the Ascension

Significance
1. Demonstrated the truth of Christ’s teachings and claims; crowning miracle of Christ’s life
2. Delivered us from tyranny of Satan, who had enslaved man through passions, sin and death — Christ’s death merited our redemption. This resurrection began the conferral of the graces merited
3. Completed the life and work of the incarnation
4. Provides the means we need to reach heaven
5. Promises our own final resurrection

Implications
1. Inspires joy, with Christ in His victory over sin and death
2. Evokes our faith in Christ, our God and King
3. Arouses hope that we shall join Him
4. Animates our love for the risen Christ — in heaven at the right hand of His Father — in the Church as the object of our worship, adoration, and affection

Truth and Reality

Nature and Circumstances

Manner of Christ’s Resurrection
1. Three days after crucifixion
2. Unseen by human witnesses
3. By Christ’s own divine power, with the Father and the Holy Spirit

Resurrection

Features of the Resurrection
1. Foretold by the Prophets
2. Predicted by Christ
3. Testified by angels (Mt. 28:6)
4. Testified by women (Mk. 16:10)
5. Testified by the apostles (Lk. 24:34)
6. Taught by the apostolic church (Acts)

Nature of body and soul to a glorious life
2. Transfigured soul replenishes the body
3. New kind of human life begins
4. Body no longer burden on the soul
5. New sources of knowledge, joy and power
6. Body becomes
   1. Immortal
   2. Immaterial
   3. Independent of food, sleep
   4. Freedom from passion, material resistance
   5. Agile, subtle, powerful

Witnesses
1. By Christ’s own divine power, with the Father and the Holy Spirit