

## **“But Christ DID Rise from the Dead!”**

by  
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- What** In this Readers Theater for Easter (or any service focused on Jesus’ resurrection), we are reminded of what we received as a result of Jesus conquering death and rising from the grave. **Themes:** Easter, Resurrection, Salvation, Christian Life
- Who** Actor 1  
Actor 2  
Actor 3
- When** Present
- Wear (Props)** 3 matching folders or stands if you choose not to memorize.
- Why** 1 Corinthians 15; Romans 10:8-13; 1 Peter 1:3-5
- How** This script is best performed memorized but could be read if necessary. If you are running low on time to memorize but have the actors, simply spread the script out among a larger ensemble. If the script is read, be familiar enough with it to look up as much as possible. Even though it’s a reader’s theatre style script, try to be as conversational as possible with your audience and your fellow actor(s). Though the topic is serious, the dialogue is not overly formal.
- Time** Approximately 4 minutes

*Actors are side by side—close enough to each other to feel familiar and as if they're engaging with one another in addition to the audience.*

**Actor 2:** Happy Resurrection Sunday!

**Actor 3:** Jesus is risen!

**Actor 1:** He is risen indeed.

**Actor 2:** This is quite the celebration.

**Actor 3:** Yes, it is. Today is set aside to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ, God's Son, from the dead.

**Actor 1:** The message of Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection stands as a keystone principle of our faith.

**Actor 2:** If Christ isn't raised from the dead, then our faith is hollow and empty and useless,

**Actor 3:** Our witness is false,

**Actor 1:** We're forever dead in our sin,

**Actor 2:** And our hope is pitiful and temporary.

**Actor 3:** Well, that's not what I imagined talking about at an Easter service.

**Actor 1:** *(light laugh)* I guess not. But...

**Actor 2:** Now we're getting to the good part, right?

**Actor 3:** As a matter of fact, we are. Now for the eternity shaking, truly prodigious, never-to-be-revoked truth.

**Actor 1:** The truth is...Jesus Christ was most definitely raised from the dead!

**Actor 2:** And in an instant, everything but the immutable nature and Word of God himself changed.

**Actor 3:** And our eternal destiny—including yours—was given a hope that is hardly imaginable.

**Actor 1:** After His resurrection, over 500 people saw Him alive—breathing, walking, talking, and teaching—

**Actor 2:** Mary Magdalene,

**Actor 3:** Mary, the Mother of James,

**Actor 1:** Joanna and several other women,

**Actor 2:** The disciples,

**Actor 3:** And on at least one occasion, he was seen by hundreds of people at once!

**Actor 1:** Many even physically touched his resurrected body.

**Actor 2:** Jesus declared about himself in Revelation, "I am the first and the last, and the one who lives! I was dead, but look, now I am alive forever and ever" (Revelation 1:17b-18a NET)

**Actor 3:** And now He sits at the right hand of the Father and holds the keys of death and of hell.

**Actor 1:** So, what does all this mean?

**Actor 2:** Why does it matter that Jesus is risen?

**Actor 3:** What did the Gaithers write in the old song that many of us have sung? "Because He lives, I can face tomorrow?"

**Actor 1:** Yes! And "because He lives, all fear is gone."

**Actor 2:** As a result of Jesus' resurrection, I will see God one day, even if this body is destroyed. I can sing and shout with certainty from the top of my lungs, "I know that my Redeemer lives!" (Job 19:25 NET)

**Actor 3:** Jesus said, "I AM the resurrection and the life." (John 1:25 NET) On the grounds of His resurrection, anyone who believes this truth will live.

**Actor 1:** Exactly! Whoever believes is made alive in Christ Jesus!

**Actor 2:** The Apostle Paul writes in no uncertain terms, "If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved." (Romans 10:9 NET)

**Actor 3:** Everyone, no matter where you're from or what your past is like, "Everyone who believes in Him will not be put to shame." (Romans 10:11 NET)

**Actor 1:** "Just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too may live a new life." (Romans 6:4b NET)

**Actor 2:** Because of Christ's resurrection, we have been born again into a living hope...

**Actor 3:** A hope with an inheritance that is imperishable,

**Actor 1:** undefiled,

**Actor 2:** unfading,

**Actor 3:** and protected in heaven by God's power.

**Actor 1:** Because Jesus was raised from the dead, we can be declared righteous in the eyes of God.

**Actor 2:** He "was raised for the sake of our justification." (Romans 4:25b NET)

**Actor 3:** Because of Jesus' resurrection, our bodies are no longer our own but have been bought with a price that's been paid in full.

**Actor 1:** True! Our bodies are now purposed as the Holy Spirit's temple, a dwelling place for the Lord.

**Actor 2:** Think about that—God's Spirit ever with you to comfort,

**Actor 3:** to convict,

**Actor 1:** to guide you into truth,

**Actor 2:** to help you pray,

**Actor 3:** and to empower you to do God's will.

**Actor 1:** Because Jesus died on the cross and rose from the grave, we also have a high priest who is ever interceding for us—

**Actor 2:** A high priest who has finished the sacrificial work of redemption,

**Actor 3:** A high priest who has been tempted in every way and now sympathizes with our weaknesses.

**Actor 1:** Not only did God display his love and grace and mercy when He raised Jesus from the grave, He exercised His immense strength and the incomparable greatness of His power—

**Actor 2:** power over sin,

**Actor 3:** power over the grave,

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**Actor 1:** power over Satan and his schemes.

**Actor 2:** And because of the resurrection of Christ, that same power that rose Jesus from the grave is available to those who believe—

**Actor 3:** power over the slavery of sin

**Actor 1:** and power over the penalty of death.

**Actor 2:** Because Christ is raised from the dead, all my gains and accomplishments and priorities pale in comparison to knowing Him and the power of His resurrection.

**Actor 3:** I long to participate in His sufferings, even becoming like Him in death

**Actor 1:** and through His power and finished work, to be resurrected one day myself.

**Actor 2:** Yes, Christ has been raised from the dead.

**Actor 3:** And now, we have life,

**Actor 1:** salvation,

**Actor 2:** hope,

**Actor 3:** righteousness,

**Actor 1:** the Holy Spirit,

**Actor 2:** an eternal High Priest,

**Actor 3:** power,

**Actor 1:** and a greater purpose and priority in Christ Jesus.

**Actor 2:** Yes, He is risen.

**Actor 1&3:** *(if it this response is a custom in your church culture, gesture to your audience to respond with you)* He is risen indeed.

*Lights out.*