THE REVELATION OF HOLY SCRIPTURE CONCERNING "THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST".

In the words of the Apostle Peter found in Acts 1:3, there is evidence that our fellow-Christians in the Apostolic Era were in possession of The Whole Truth relating to our Lord's death and resurrection; that is, they knew the day, date and hour of His death, the exact length of His sojourn "in the heart of the earth", and the day, date and hour of His resurrection, as well as that of His presentation of Himself to God the Father as the Antitype of the "wave sheaf" on "the morrow after the Sabbath" (Leviticus 23:9-11). As one would expect, therefore, these facts, though deeply concealed, are to be found in the Four Gospels from which they have now, by God's infinite grace, been perfectly recovered.

We will establish now from Scriptures the exact hour the resurrection of our Lord took place as with this knowledge we shall learn the precise length of time He was "in the heart of the earth". Neither must we forget that true Christianity is founded upon the historic facts to be found in the Gospels relating to the Person of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

THE THREE PREDICTIONS OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST AS TO THE TIME OF HIS RESURRECTION

The expression "raised again the third day" appears no less than ten times, in one way or another, in Jesus' first prediction in the books of Matthew 16:21; 17:23; 20:19; Mark 9:31; 10:34; Luke 9:22; 18:33;24:7 and 46; I Corinth 15:4.

The statement "after three days" in Mark 8:31 occurs only once in the Authorized Version, but the revised Version renders this statement also in Mark 9:31 and 10:34.

The statement "For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth" is only recorded once in the Gospels. This last Statement is the most important of all because our Lord prefaced it with the words "There shall no sign be given. . . but the sign of the prophet Jonas". If, therefore, our Lord was not in the literal sense "three days and three nights" in death, then His one sign to this "evil and adulterous generation" failed. To declare such a thing would be blasphemy. Obviously, our Lord intended these three statements covering THE TIME of HIS resurrection to be complementary one to the other. In the statement, "Raised again the third day" is an exclusive statement. From 3 P.M on Friday, when the Saviour died, to 3 P.M. Saturday is the first day. From 3 P.M. Saturday to 3 P.M. Sunday is the second day. From 3 P.M. Sunday to 3 P.M. Monday is the third day; and according to this statement our Lord could rise at any point of time between Sunday at 3 P.M. and Monday at 3 P.M. It will be noted that "the third day" excludes all of Sunday except the last three hours, namely, 3 to 6 P.M.

"After three days rise again" is an inclusive statement. The first of these days, being inclusive, embraces all Friday – the day of our Lord's death. The second is all Saturday; and the third is all

Sunday. Each of these days is composed of 24 hour, measured like all Bible days from 6 P.M. to 6 P.M. Therefore, "after three days' means any time after 6 P.M. Sunday when the fourth day began. It will be noted that this statement excludes all Sunday as the day of the resurrection.

"So shall the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth". This again is an inclusive statement. The three days are (1) 6 A.M. to 6 P.M. Friday; (2) 6.A.M. to 6 P.M. Saturday and (3) 6 A.M. to 6 P.M. Sunday. The three nights are (1) 6 P.M. Friday to 6 A.M. Saturday; (2) 6P.M. Saturday to 6 A.M. Sunday, and (3) 6 P.M. Sunday to 6 A.M. Monday. This statement therefore positively restricts the time of the resurrection to the twelve hours of the third "night", namely 6 P.M. Sunday to 6 A. M. Monday.

As we will show from the Scriptures, our blessed Lord did rise in the middle of the third night. Therefore, His three predictions were all literally fulfilled because the resurrection took place on "the third day" – exclusively reckoned; "after three days" – inclusively reckoned; and in the third night of the "three days and three nights" – inclusively reckoned. So it is obvious to all that these three statements of our Lord Jesus Christ above quoted finally dispose of the notion that He rose from the dead at any point of time on the Sunday which followed His death at 3 P.M. on the previous Friday, 1st of May.

From the book The Restored Vision by A.E. Ware.