

# CHRIST RESURRECTED ACCORDING TO THE SCRIPTURES (PART 2)

—adapted from the writings of St. Cyril, Patriarch of Jerusalem—

Which scriptures foretold the Resurrection of Christ? The prophet Zephaniah spoke distinctly with these words: “On account of this, **wait for Me**” **says the Lord, “until the day of My resurrection as a testimony.** For My judgment shall be for the gathering of the nations” (**Zep. 3:8**). Who is the person who will resurrect? It is the Lord! And which exceptional and wondrous event will attest to His resurrection? The prophet clearly indicates this in following, when he says, “**For then I shall transform for the people a language for her generation**” (**Zep. 3:9**). He spoke thus because after Christ’s resurrection, the Holy Spirit descended and the gift of different languages was given to the Apostles: “**And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance**” (**Acts 2:4**). The same prophet goes on to predict, “**For all to call upon the name of the Lord, to serve Him under one yoke**” (**Zep. 3:9**). What historical event does he refer to as confirmation that all the nations would serve the Lord under one yolk? “**From the boundaries of the rivers of Ethiopia they will bring offerings to Me**” (**Zep. 3:10**). We are all familiar with what is recorded in the Acts of the Apostles; namely, that the eunuch came from the most distant rivers of Ethiopia: “**And behold, a man of Ethiopia, a eunuch of great authority under Candace the queen of the Ethiopians, who had charge of all her treasury, and had come to Jerusalem to worship, was returning**” (**Acts 8:27**). Therefore, since the holy scriptures of the Old Testament designate not only the place of the Resurrection, but also the signs that would follow Christ’s Resurrection, let no skeptic hinder you from confessing with certainty that Jesus Christ died and rose from the dead.

There are also numerous prophecies concerning Christ’s resurrection contained in the Psalms of David. First of all, the following has been written in the eleventh Psalm: “Because of the distress of the beggars and the groaning of the poor, **now I will resurrect, saith the Lord**; I will sacrifice myself for salvation, I will be manifest therein” (**Ps. 11:6**).

Let us examine the fifteenth Psalm as well. Speaking on behalf of Christ the Messiah, the prophet David says, “I beheld the Lord ever before me, for He is at my right hand, that I might not be shaken. Therefore did my heart rejoice and my tongue was glad; moreover, my flesh shall dwell in hope. **For Thou wilt not abandon my soul in hades, nor wilt Thou suffer Thy Holy One to see corruption**” (**Ps. 15:7-9**). He did not say “nor will You permit Your Holy One to taste death”— because in such a case Christ would not have died. Rather, he states, “I do not witness corruption of My body, nor will I remain dead for long.” Having said this, he immediately continues, “**Thou hast made known to me the ways of life, Thou wilt fill me with gladness with Thy countenance; delights are in Thy right hand forever** (**Ps. 15:10-11**). Behold how after death, life is clearly being preached!