

the perfect tense expresses the idea that Jesus was now alive and continues to live. The perfect tense speaks of a result which abides. As R. H. Strachan says, "The perfect egegetai reverberates like the stroke of a bell right through the chapter." ("The Historic Jesus in the New Testament" - p. 46) Jesus remains alive as the Risen One!

We have noticed that Paul mentions that the resurrection took place on the third day. This particular detail given by Paul is also mentioned by Peter in his speech in the house of Cornelius according to Acts 10:40. The third day is mentioned in the Gospels, both in the Synoptics in the course of Jesus' prediction of His death and resurrection (Mark 8:31-33; 9:30-32; 10:32-34 and parallels) and in the Gospel of John where Jesus at the first Passover of His public ministry says, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The evangelist comments as follows, "but He spake of the temple of His body." (John 2:19,21) This detail of the third day is also mentioned in the accounts of the resurrection. (Luke 24:21,46) The third day is an essential part of the Christian tradition. The importance of the third day has been expressed by Dr. William Sanday who says, "The 'third day' is hardly less firmly rooted in the tradition of the Church than the Resurrection itself. We have it not only in the speech ascribed to St. Peter (Acts 10:40), but in the central testimony of St. Paul, and then in the oldest form of the Apostles' Creed. It is strange that so slight a detail should have been preserved at all, and still stranger that it should hold the place it does in the standard of the Church's faith." ("Outlines of the Life of Christ" - p. 183)

In verses 5 through 8 Paul proceeds to give a list of the appearances of Jesus after He had risen from the dead. We have no reason