

## SYLLABUS FOR APOSTOLIC HISTORY

## I. The Resurrection of Jesus

## A. Its Importance

## 1. As a historical fact

- a. The beginning of the Christian Church
- b. The spread of the Christian Church
- c. Its factual nature stressed in the New Testament
- d. Modern recognition of its importance

e.g. Machen, J. Gresham: The Christian Faith in the Modern World, P. 214.

Shaw, John Mackintosh: Essentials and Non-Essentials of the Christian Faith, p. 138.

Foakes-Jackson, F.J.: The Rise of Gentile Christianity, p. 43.

Gardner, Percy: A Historic View of the New Testament,  
Lecture V, Section iv.

Baur, Ferdinand Christian: Church History of the First Three Centuries (English Translation), Vol. 1, p. 42:- "In the faith of the disciples the resurrection of Jesus Christ came to be regarded as a solid and unquestionable fact. It was in this fact that Christianity acquired a firm basis for its historical development."

## 2. As a historical message

- a. The gospel not good advice but good news
  - b. The resurrection in the early apostolic preaching
- e.g. The speeches of Peter:- Acts 2,3,4,5,10.

c. The resurrection in the preaching of Paul:- e.g. Acts 13, 17.

d. The resurrection in the epistles of Paul.

e. The resurrection in the epistle to the Hebrews.

f. The resurrection in the epistles of Peter.

e.g. I Peter 1:3,21; 3:21

g. The resurrection in the Revelation of John:- 1:5,18; 2:8.

h. Modern attitudes toward the resurrection.

e.g. Fundamentalist:- Statement of the 1923 Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.:- "It is an essential doctrine of the Word of God and our Standards that on the third day He rose again from the dead with the same body with which He suffered, with which also He ascended into heaven, and there sitteth at the right hand of His Father making intercession."

Modernist:- Merrill, William Pierson:- Liberal Christianity, pp. 57,58:- "The Liberal Christian is more or less indifferent to the question whether it was in the body or in the spirit that Jesus rose.....The crucial fact, that which counts, is the indestructible persuasion that He lives, and is with us now, our Lord, our Master, through whom God draws near to us and we to Him."

Harnack, Adolf:- History of Dogma (English translation),  
Vol. 1, pp. 25-87.

Brunner, Emil:- The Mediator (English translation),  
pp. 575-578.