

evidence the faith of the early disciples was inseparable from the victorious message "He is risen!" Another modern attitude towards the resurrection is expressed by Emil Brunner, of Switzerland, who has lectured at Princeton Theological Seminary on several occasions. Brunner says, "Easter is not a historical event, it is revelation." Such a statement represents the view of the Barthian School, which has been called "the new modernism." In this view we observe the separation of revelation from history. Since the Christian religion is a historically revealed religion, we believe that the resurrection of Jesus Christ is a fact of history. The Christian Church celebrates Easter in commemoration of the bodily resurrection of Jesus as a historical event.

Since we have noticed the importance of the resurrection of Jesus both as a historical fact and a historical message, let us now look at certain problems of the resurrection. We are face to face with the presence of the Christian Church in the world to-day. How did this institution come into being? When we see how sad and discouraged the disciples were at the time of Jesus' death, there must be some explanation for the change in the life of these men. What caused these disheartened disciples to become the spiritual conquerors of the world? A vital part of the answer is their belief that Jesus had risen from the dead and had appeared to them on various occasions. There is also the rapid growth of the Christian Church and its widespread influence in a heathen world. The Church went forward with the firm conviction that Jesus had actually risen from the grave. Believers and unbelievers accept the fact that the disciples believed the resurrection. However, many unbelievers have views to explain this belief. These naturalistic historians have been interested to account for this strong belief of the disciples in the bodily resur-