beholding or just believing? (St. Symeon the New Theologian)

Ξένες γλώσσες / In English



Most men believe in the resurrection of Christ, but very few have a clear vision of it. ... That most sacred formula which is daily on our lips does not say, "Having believed in Christ's resurrection," but, "Having beheld Christ's resurrection, let us worship the Holy Lord Jesus, who alone is without sin." How then does the Holy Spirit urge us to say, "Having beheld Christ's resurrection," which we have not seen as though we had seen it, when Christ has risen once for all a thousand years ago, and even then without anybody's seeing it? Surely Holy Scripture does not wish us to lie? Far from it! Rather, it urges us to speak the truth, that the resurrection of Christ takes place in each of us who believes, and that not once, but every hour, so to speak, when Christ the Master arises in us, resplendent in array and flashing with the lightnings of incorruption and Deity. ($\pi \epsilon \rho \log \sigma \delta \tau \epsilon \rho \alpha \ldots$)