

Sermon Summary

3rd Sunday in Easter

22nd April 2012

- The Resurrection stories serve two functions
- First, they attempt to explain what Jesus' new life was NOT.
- He had continued existence
- This was more substantial than "Casper the friendly ghost"
- It is described using supernatural elements (he appears in locked rooms)
- And physical elements (he is able to eat or be touched)
- The Risen Lord shows how he was anticipated in Scripture (which means that he is no unsubstantiated novelty).
- He is recognised not by his face, but by the marks of his Passion.
- He also gifts the church with his spirit.
- There is a commission to evangelise.
- Whilst the resurrection accounts may vary in precise detail, the gist of their meaning remains constant across the gospels.
- It is these points that inspire the first disciples to go out into the world in an unparalleled burst of theological and missionary activity.

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