

The Great Reality of Jesus' Resurrection Body



John 21:1-14

- The details of chapter 21 supply a complete lesson on service.
 - Here we have the apostles engaged in active ministry.
- The chapter falls into seven parts of its teaching on service.
 1. First, we see men serving in the energy of the flesh (v. 2-3).
 2. Second, we are shown the barrenness of such efforts (v. 3-5).
 3. Third, the Lord now directs their energies, telling them where to work (v. 6).
 4. Fourth, we learn of the Lord's gracious provision for His servants (v. 12-13).
 5. Fifth, we are taught what is the only acceptable motive for service – love for Christ (v. 15, 17).
 6. Sixth, the Lord makes known how that he appoints the time and manner of the death of those of His servants who die (v. 18, 19).
 7. Seventh, the Lord concludes by leaving with them the prospect of His return, not for death, but for Himself they should look (v. 20, 24).
- The average reader would conclude that John completed his book with the dramatic testimony of Thomas, and the reader would wonder why John added another chapter.
 - John has another purpose in mind: he wanted to refute the foolish rumor that had spread among the believers that John would live until the return of the Lord.
 - John wanted to teach us to relate to the risen Christ.
 - Jesus proved the great reality of His resurrection body (v. 1-14).
1. Jesus showed Himself (v. 1-3).
 - He was the risen Lord – bodily (Rom. 1:3-4).
 - How did the Lord's body differ since His resurrection?
- (1) The resurrected body of the Lord was His body, but it was radically changed.
 - (2) The resurrected and glorified body that is promised to the believer gives some additional insight into the kind of body Jesus now has.

- **“Who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like His glorious body” (Ph. 3:21; Matt. 13:43; Rom. 8:17; Col. 3:4).**
- **We will be “conformed to the likeness of His Son” (Rom. 8:29; 1 Cor. 15:49; 2 Cor. 3:18).**
- **“We shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is” (1 John 3:2).**
- **The body of the believer is to undergo a radical change just as the Lord’s body was radically changed.**
- **The believer will receive a spiritual body (1 Cor. 15:44).**