

## **John 21: Sea of Galilee**

Jesus shows Himself at Sea of Tiberias. (Only place this is used.) Before this he appeared when they were in an assembly, the Lord's Day. Now seems to be a regular day. Disciples are doing their job.

Shows Himself to 7 of them. They are in community even in ordinary work things. And here so they could all be witnesses. Thomas is there.

Peter wants to fish, and they all go with him. Occupying their time. Still at work-Spirit had not yet come. Catch nothing. Industrious but fail - sometimes so that Glory can be shown.

Christ comes when they are disappointed. Standing in triumph. Resurrected, glorified Body. He chooses the time He shows Himself. They don't recognize Him...even though they knew Him well.

Calls them "children." Asks them a practical question very tenderly. He wants them to communicate their problems to Him. He knows of course but wants to hear from them.

Cast the net on the right. Similar to Luke Ch 5. Miracle to provide for their needs. Lord of nature. Their labors had failed. Change after Pentecost. They would really become fishers of men.

John recognizes Him first. He was closest to Him. Then he tells Peter. Wants everyone to know. Peter jumps toward Him and makes himself more presentable. He is the most zealous. Goes toward Him like he did when he walked on the water. You want to go to Him when you know Him.

The others come more slowly but they come. Everyone has different personalities and different gifts. The others were doing important work - bringing the catch of fish. Christ is pleased with both. BOTH meet Him at the shore. BOTH are at the Table.

They found provision on the shore. Care for our practical needs. Fishers of men are cared for. They also enjoy the fruit of their labor. We must bring all our work to Him.

They counted the fish - 153 - and they were all large.

He serves them. Doesn't make them serve Him. Friends. Everything was prepared - come and dine. Just like the Kingdom. They are a little timid. He serves them. He can eat with them - glorified body.

V 15: Peter is probably worried about where he stands. Had denied the Lord. Now has seen Him 2 other times and no denial mentioned. Jesus talks with him after they had eaten. He did

not confront Peter right away. Never mentioned his denial at the first 2 appearances. Talks to him like a friend. Peter had shown repentance and sorrow. He was forgiven and the offense forgotten.

Same question 3 times. He calls Peter by his given name; Simon; not Cephas or Peter. To affect him more. "Rock" was taken away. Uses same name He did in Matt 16:17 (Caesarea Philippi). Reminds him how far he (Peter) has come. Uses "agape." Doesn't ask what he has been doing, has he been fasting, has he been repenting and crying. Only about love. Love will cause us to do the work II Cor 5:14.

Peter answers with less a degree of love and ignores the "more than these." Was Jesus talking about how much Peter loves his friends or whether he loves Jesus more than these others do.

Feed my lambs- sense of a shepherd. Diminutive sheep.

Second time Jesus drops the "more than these" - is on Peter's terms. Peter repeats the same words in reply. Tend My sheep - shepherd My lambs. Diminutive sheep.

Third time Jesus uses Peter's term for love. Peter is cut to the heart. He had denied Jesus 3 times. More penitent. Greek means he is grieved. He acknowledges to Jesus that He knows all things - Divine Nature. Feed the sheep (not diminutive). Peter must care for the lambs and the sheep. The Church is the flock purchased with His own Blood. Acts 20:28. Flock is made up of sheep of all different ages and sizes - chronological and spiritual maturity.

Third time caring or tending the flock means ALL the functions and responsibilities of a shepherd not just giving the sheep food like the first 2 times. A high commission is given despites Peter's failings and denials.

V 18: Now that Peter has been restored and has the work to do, Jesus tells him there will be suffering involved. Martyrdom. Prefaces it with "verily, verily" or "most assuredly." Used to independent and do whatever he wanted. Now he is a follower of Christ.

Follow Me.

Walking with John behind them. Peter distracted. Asks about John. We wonder about the others in the Body. Jesus is upset. You follow Me. Worry about your own work and responsibilities.