

John 21

The final chapter



Context:

- ◆ **20:30** And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; **31** but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.
- ◆ **21:1** After these things Jesus showed Himself again to the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias, and in this way He showed *Himself*: **2** Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the *sons* of Zebedee, and two others of His disciples were together.

Context:

- ◆ Jesus is risen, but he is not around
 - ◆ Appeared on Sunday to all of the disciples except Thomas
 - ◆ Appeared the next Sunday to all of them including Thomas
 - ◆ Has also appeared to some other disciples (eg. On the road to Emmaus) but then...
- ◆ Disciples at a loose end... What now?
 - ◆ They go home
 - ◆ They stay together (some of them)
 - ◆ They go fishing

Catching the FISH (vv.3-8)

- ◆ Peter, James and John are professionals, but...

‘...that night they caught nothing. 4 But when the morning had now come, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. 5 Then Jesus said to them, “Children, have you any food?”

They answered Him, “No.”

6 And He said to them, “Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some.” So they cast, and now they were not able to draw it in because of the multitude of fish.

7 Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!””

The lesson of the FISH

- ◆ Jesus is the one who PROVIDES
And JESUS is the one who WITHHOLDS!
- ◆ Jesus teaches you reliance
- ◆ What has Jesus withheld from you?
 - ◆ Do you trust Him anyway?
 - ◆ Had you forgotten (or not realised) that he was the one providing it to you in the first place?
- ◆ DO YOU TRUST JESUS TO PROVIDE FOR YOU?

The lesson of the TWO DISCIPLES

- John realised. Peter jumped!

7 Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!”

Now when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment (for he had removed it), and plunged into the sea. 8 But the other disciples came in the little boat (for they were not far from land, but about two hundred cubits), dragging the net with fish.

- GOD USES DIFFERENT TYPES OF PEOPLE**

- You don't have to be someone else, you just have to obey and follow Jesus

Around the FIRE (vv.9-17)

- ◆ **9** Then, as soon as they had come to land, they saw a fire of coals there, and fish laid on it, and bread. **10** Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish which you have just caught.”
- ◆ **11** Simon Peter went up and dragged the net to land, full of large fish, one hundred and fifty-three; and although there were so many, the net was not broken. **12** Jesus said to them, “Come *and* eat breakfast.” Yet none of the disciples dared ask Him, “Who are You?”—knowing that it was the Lord. **13** Jesus then came and took the bread and gave it to them, and likewise the fish.
- ◆ **14** This *is* now the third time Jesus showed Himself to His disciples after He was raised from the dead.

Around the FIRE

- ◆ When was the last time these men had a meal with Jesus?
 - ◆ Right before they ran away and left him to the Judas and the crowd with swords!
- ◆ And what had Peter said?
 - ◆ Mark 14:29. *‘Peter said to Him, “Even if all are made to stumble, yet **I will** not be.”’*
 - ◆ John 13:37. *‘Peter said to Him, “Lord, why can **I** not follow You now? **I will** lay down my life for Your sake.”’*
 - ◆ And yet he had denied Jesus three times, with OATHS!

The lesson around the FIRE

🔹 Jesus restores.

15 So when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon, *son* of Jonah, **[b]** do you love Me more than these?” He said to Him, “Yes, Lord; You know that I love You.” He said to him, “Feed My lambs.”

16 He said to him again a second time, “Simon, *son* of Jonah, **[c]** do you love Me?” He said to Him, “Yes, Lord; You know that I love You.” He said to him, “Tend My sheep.”

17 He said to him the third time, “Simon, *son* of Jonah, **[d]** do you love Me?” Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, “Do you love Me?” And he said to Him, “Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You.” Jesus said to him, “Feed My sheep.

The lesson around the FIRE

- ◆ You must face up to the reality of your sin
 - ◆ Jesus is not going to tell you ‘It’s all ok, just forget it’.
 - ◆ Instead, you must realise your sin, repent of it and seek reconciliation with Jesus

- ◆ Jesus restores
 - ◆ you can come to Him **NO MATTER HOW FAR YOU HAVE FALLEN!**

The lesson around the FIRE

- ◆ What sin do you need to face up to?
- ◆ Do you trust Jesus to forgive you?
- ◆ **THERE IS NO ONE LIKE CHRIST!**
 - ◆ Who else could forgive total betrayal.

FOLLOWING Jesus

◆ Jesus restores for a purpose!

8 Most assuredly, I say to you, when you were younger, you girded yourself and walked where you wished; but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will gird you and carry you where you do not wish.”

19 This He spoke, signifying by what death he would glorify God. And when He had spoken this, He said to him, “Follow Me.”

FOLLOWING Jesus

- ◆ Peter is given a job to do – and it will take his life!
 - ◆ (Peter will get another chance to demonstrate his loyalty to Christ)
- ◆ Are you a Christian?
 - ◆ Are you FOLLOWING Jesus?
 - ◆ Jesus calls you for a purpose
 - ◆ You have a job to do in his Kingdom
 - ◆ God has already given you all you need to get started

The lesson of the TWO DISCIPLES

- ◆ **20** Then Peter, turning around, saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following, who also had leaned on His breast at the supper, and said, “Lord, who is the one who betrays You?” **21** Peter, seeing him, said to Jesus, “But Lord, what *about* this man?”
- ◆ **22** Jesus said to him, “If I will that he remain till I come, what *is that* to you? You follow Me.”
- ◆ **23** Then this saying went out among the brethren that this disciple would not die. Yet Jesus did not say to him that he would not die, but, “If I will that he remain till I come, what *is that* to you?”
- ◆ **24** This is the disciple who testifies of these things, and wrote these things; and we know that his testimony is true.
- ◆ **25** And there are also many other things that Jesus did, which if they were written one by one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that would be written. Amen.

The lesson of the TWO DISCIPLES


- ◆ You don't get to know everyone else's story
- ◆ No two stories will be the same, so
 - ◆ Don't envy other people's stories
 - ◆ Don't despise your own story
- ◆ Remember:
 - ◆ GOD CREATES AND USES DIFFERENT TYPES OF PEOPLE
 - ◆ You don't have to be someone else, you just have to obey and follow Jesus

FINALLY...It's not about you!

- ◆ You are just a witness of JESUS' greatness.

24 This is the disciple who testifies of these things, and wrote these things; and we know that his testimony is true.

25 And there are also many other things that Jesus did, which if they were written one by one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that would be written. Amen.

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- ◆ *“these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.” (John 20:31)*

DO YOU HONOUR THE KING?

DO YOU HAVE LIFE IN HIM?