



## Lesson 73 – By the Sea Once More

Based on John 21:1-22.

### 1) What instruction did Jesus give at His resurrection?

**Matthew 28:10** Then said Jesus unto them, Be not afraid: go tell my brethren that they go into \_\_\_\_\_, and there shall they see me.

Jesus had appointed to meet His disciples in Galilee; and soon after the Passover week was ended, they bent their steps thither. Their absence from Jerusalem during the feast would have been interpreted as disaffection and heresy, therefore they remained till its close; but this over, they gladly turned homeward to meet the Saviour as He had directed.

### 2) To whom did Jesus reveal Himself?

**John 21:1-2** After these things Jesus shewed himself again to the disciples at the sea of \_\_\_\_\_; and on this wise shewed he himself. There were together Simon Peter, and Thomas called Didymus, and Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, and the sons of Zebedee, and two other of his \_\_\_\_\_.

Seven of the disciples were in company. They were clad in the humble garb of fishermen; they were poor in worldly goods, but rich in the knowledge and practice of the truth, which in the sight of Heaven gave them the highest rank as teachers. They had not been students in the schools of the prophets, but for three years they had been taught by the greatest Educator the world has ever known. Under His instruction they had become elevated, intelligent, and refined, agents through whom men might be led to a knowledge of the truth.

### 3) What were they doing before Jesus met up with them?

**John 21:3** Simon Peter saith unto them, I go a fishing. They say unto him, We also go with thee. They went forth, and entered into a ship immediately; and that night they caught \_\_\_\_\_.

They found themselves surrounded by reminders of Jesus and His mighty works. On this sea, when their hearts were filled with terror, and the fierce storm was hurrying them to destruction, Jesus had walked upon the billows to their rescue. Here the tempest had been hushed by His word. Within sight was the beach where above ten thousand persons had been fed from a few small loaves and fishes. Not far distant was Capernaum, the scene of so many miracles. As the disciples looked upon the scene, their minds were full of the words and deeds of their Saviour.

The evening was pleasant, and Peter, who still had much of his old love for boats and fishing, proposed that they should go out upon the sea and cast their nets. In this plan all were ready to join; they were in need of food and clothing, which the proceeds of a successful night's fishing would supply. So, they went out in their boat.

### 4) Who met up with them?

**21:4-5** But when the morning was now come, \_\_\_\_\_ stood on the shore: but the disciples knew not that it was Jesus. Then Jesus saith unto them, Children, have ye any \_\_\_\_\_? They answered him, No.

### 5) What did He tell them to do?

**21:6** And he said unto them, Cast the net on the \_\_\_\_\_ side of the ship, and ye shall find. They cast therefore, and now they were not able to draw it for the multitude of fishes.

**6) With a boat FULL of fish, what happened?**

**21:7-8** Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved saith unto Peter, It is the Lord. Now when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he girt his fisher's coat unto him, (for he was naked,) and did \_\_\_\_\_ into the sea. And the other disciples came in a little \_\_\_\_\_; (for they were not far from land, but as it were two hundred cubits,) dragging the net with fishes.

**7) What did Jesus do?**

**Luke 21:9-10** As soon then as they were come to land, they saw a fire of coals there, and fish laid thereon, and \_\_\_\_\_. Jesus saith unto them, Bring of the \_\_\_\_\_ which ye have now caught.

Peter rushed for the net, which he had dropped, and helped his brethren drag it to the shore. After the work was done, and the preparation made, Jesus bade the disciples come and dine. He broke the food, and divided it among them, and was known and acknowledged by all the seven. The miracle of feeding the five thousand on the mountainside was now brought to their minds; but a mysterious awe was upon them, and in silence they gazed upon the risen Saviour.

**8) What flooded into their memories?**

**Luke 5:6-7** And when they had this done, they inclosed a great multitude of fishes: and their net \_\_\_\_\_. And they beckoned unto their partners, which were in the other ship, that they should come and help them. And they came, and filled both the ships, so that they began to \_\_\_\_\_.

Vividly they recalled the scene beside the sea when Jesus had bidden them follow Him. They remembered how, at His command, they had launched out into the deep, and had let down their net, and the catch had been so abundant as to fill the net, even to breaking. Then Jesus had called them to leave their fishing boats and had promised to make them fishers of men.

**9) What did Jesus tell them?**

**John 21:12** Jesus saith unto them, Come and \_\_\_\_\_. And none of the disciples durst ask him, Who art thou? knowing that it was the Lord.

It showed them that the death of their Master had not lessened their obligation to do the work He had assigned them. Though they were to be deprived of His personal companionship, and of the means of support by their former employment, the risen Saviour would still have a care for them.

**10) How did Jesus bless Peter in the presence of the others?**

**John 21:15** So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my \_\_\_\_\_.

**John 21:16** He saith to him again the \_\_\_\_\_, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my sheep.

**John 21:17** He saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; \_\_\_\_\_ that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep.



**11) What did He say that showed Peter and the rest that he was forgiven?**

**John 21:18-19** Verily, verily, I say unto thee, When thou wast young, thou girdedst thyself, and walkedst whither thou wouldest: but when thou shalt be \_\_\_\_\_, thou shalt stretch forth thy hands, and another shall gird thee, and carry thee whither thou wouldest not. This spake he, signifying by what \_\_\_\_\_ he should glorify God. And when he had spoken this, he saith unto him, Follow me.

Peter's denial of his Lord had been in shameful contrast to his former professions of loyalty. He had dishonored Christ and had incurred the distrust of his brethren. They thought he would not be allowed to take his former position among them, and he himself felt that he had forfeited his trust. Before being called to take up again his apostolic work, he must before them all give evidence of his repentance. Without this, his sin, though repented of, might have destroyed his influence as a minister of Christ.

**12) What was all this pertaining to?**

**Matthew 26:74-75** Then began he to curse and to swear, saying, I know not the man. And immediately the cock crew. And Peter \_\_\_\_\_ the word of Jesus, which said unto him, Before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice. And he went out, and \_\_\_\_\_ bitterly.

Three times Peter had openly denied his Lord, and three times Jesus drew from him the assurance of his love and loyalty, pressing home that pointed question, like a barbed arrow to his wounded heart. Before the assembled disciples Jesus revealed the depth of Peter's repentance and showed how thoroughly humbled was the once boasting disciple.

**13) What had Jesus done for Peter?**

**Luke 22:31-32** And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may \_\_\_\_\_ you as \_\_\_\_\_: But I have \_\_\_\_\_ for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.

That time had now come, and the transformation in Peter was evident. The close, testing questions of the Lord had not called out one forward, self-sufficient reply; and because of his humiliation and repentance, Peter was better prepared than ever before to act as shepherd to the flock.

The converted Peter was very different. He retained his former fervor, but the grace of Christ regulated his zeal. He was no longer impetuous, self-confident, and self-exalted, but calm, self-possessed, and teachable. He could then feed the lambs as well as the sheep of Christ's flock.

**14) Christ told the Disciples earlier that He was going to return to heaven, what promise did he give?**

**John 13:36-37** Simon Peter said unto him, Lord, whither goest thou? Jesus answered him, Whither I go, thou canst not follow me \_\_\_\_\_; but thou shalt follow me \_\_\_\_\_.

When he said this, he little knew to what heights and depths Christ's feet would lead the way. Peter had failed when the test came, but again he was to have opportunity to prove his love for Christ. That he might be strengthened for the final test of his faith, the Saviour opened to him his future. He told him that after living a life of usefulness, when age was telling upon his strength, he would indeed follow his Lord. afterwards.



**15) What did Jesus tell Peter?**

**John 21:18-19** Verily, verily, I say unto thee, When thou wast young, thou girdedst thyself, and walkedst whither thou wouldest: but when thou shalt be old, thou shalt stretch forth thy hands, and another shall gird thee, and carry thee whither thou wouldest not. This spake he, signifying by what death he should glorify God. And when he had spoken this, he saith unto him, \_\_\_\_\_

To Peter the words "**Follow Me**" were full of instruction. Not only for his death, but for every step of his life, was the lesson given. Hitherto Peter had been inclined to act independently. He had tried to plan for the work of God, instead of waiting to follow out God's plan. But he could gain nothing by rushing on before the Lord. Jesus bids him, "Follow Me." Do not run ahead of Me. Then you will not have the hosts of Satan to meet alone. Let Me go before you, and you will not be overcome by the enemy.

**16) What question did Peter ask Jesus?**

**John 21:20-21** Then Peter, turning about, \_\_\_\_\_ the disciple whom Jesus loved following; which also leaned on his breast at supper, and said, Lord, which is he that betrayeth thee? Peter seeing him saith to Jesus, Lord, and what shall this man \_\_\_\_\_?

**17) What did Jesus answer?**

**John 21:22** Jesus saith unto him, If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee? \_\_\_\_\_ thou me.

Jesus gave no assurance that this disciple should live until the Lord's second coming. He merely asserted His own supreme power, and that even if He should will this to be so, it would in no way affect Peter's work. The future of both John and Peter was in the hands of their Lord. Obedience in following Him was the duty required of each.

John lived to be very aged. He witnessed the destruction of Jerusalem, and the ruin of the stately temple, a symbol of the final ruin of the world. To his latest days John closely followed his Lord.

**18) What was his testimony at the end of his life?**

**1 John 4:7,16** Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and \_\_\_\_\_ God. And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in \_\_\_\_\_, and God in him.

**19) What was the testimony at the end of Peter's life?**

**1 Peter 5:2-4** \_\_\_\_\_ the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being \_\_\_\_\_ to the flock. And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

**Can you see God calls you?**

**Do you want to live life to the fullest?**

**When is the time to heed the call?**