

## THE LAST GREAT CATCH OF FISH

**John 21:1** *After these things Jesus shewed himself again to the disciples at the sea of Tiberias; and on this wise shewed he himself.*

**John 21:2** *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 disciples.*

After the resurrection, the Lord came to the Galilee to meet his apostles by the shores of the Galilee. They were six in total. Six represents the day before the Sabbath, a time when the people of God enter into their rest. I believe we are in the sixth day in this time. John does not name two of the apostles. We don't know why, but this shows we ought not to be disappointed when our names are not mentioned – Jesus knew who they were and they were part of this miracle. “But when the morning was now come, Jesus stood on the shore: but the disciples knew not that it was Jesus. Then Jesus saith unto them, Children, have ye any meat? They answered him, No (John 21:4, 5). We must be very careful; in these last days we may be fishing for souls and fruit for the Lord without his help – in our own strength. Since they did not solicit the help of the Lord, they could not even recognize him. In Luke 5, the apostles first met the Lord and was a stranger to them. But now, they should have known him.

**John 21:6** *And he said unto them, Cast the net on the right 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.*

How merciful is the Lord! Although they did not solicit his help, nor recognize who he was, he still directed them with his authority and commanded the fish to come to them. I am convinced the Lord Jesus will allow us to catch fish in these last days because this is the last great catch – time will be no more. Jesus wants us to bring souls to him despite our weaknesses and lack of spiritual vigor. “And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled” (Luke 14:23). God is right now meeting spiritually imperfect individuals and commanding them to cast out their nets for one last great catch. Hallelujah! He does not want us to come empty-handed to him for the eternal rest.

**John 21:7** *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 cast himself into the sea.*

In Luke 5, Peter wanted to run away from the Lord because of his sins. “When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O

Lord” (Luke 5:8). Now, however, when Peter heard it is the Lord, he put on his tunic and swam the last few meters to meet him. Peter’s life was turned upside down by the same command “Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught” (Luke 5:4). Now, he heard the same command and knew his life would be changed forever once more. Once we hear Jesus’ command to catch fish, it changes our lives forever. All it will take for our lives to change today at this conference in Frankfurt is for Jesus to issue the command, “Cast the net on the right side of the ship, and ye shall find”. You may I have not caught anything for sometime! Some blame the Corona virus, others laziness and sin. You are in the same situation as the apostles – now hear the command of Jesus.

***John 21:9*** *As soon then as they were come to land, they saw a fire of coals there, and fish laid thereon, and bread.*

***John 21:10*** *Jesus saith unto them, Bring of the fish which ye have now caught.*

Jesus already had fish and bread preparing for the apostles. They knew this was a miracle and did not ask where the fish came from. In these last days, we are not the only ones catching fish for Jesus, the Lord himself is catching fish – he helped the apostles catch their haul of fish and, when they came to shore, they found Jesus’ own fish. I say with humility that I am one of Jesus’ fish – no one witnessed to me but the Lord himself drawing me out of Islam into his light. We will meet many people in heaven whom no Christian will be able to say they caught – they are Jesus’ fish. The wonderful thing is that the Lord will mix the two fish catches together in heaven.

***John 21:11*** *Simon Peter went up, and drew the net to land full of great fishes, an hundred and fifty and three: and for all there were so many, yet was not the net broken.*

One hundred and fifty three is the number of the gentiles, according to Jewish tradition. They were of the opinion that there were 153 gentile nations. This has great significance – numbers always have great significance in the Bible. It clearly took some time to count these fishes – the Lord himself allowed them to do so. Every fish is important for the Lord. Your souls is very precious to the Lord. The news media always reports a round number when it comes to catastrophes in the world – it is never 201 or 52, but 200 and 50. Not so for the Lord Jesus – every fish is counted because he issued the command to catch them. In these last days, let us believe we will catch fish from all over the world. Just consider how our metropolitan cities have people from all over the world. Politicians see only problems – crime, gang violence and other inner city evils. We need to see this as the Sea of Galilee – an

opportunity to catch 153 fish from all over the world. Let us throw our nets by faith in Jesus name in the midst of our multicultural cities and towns worldwide. Hallelujah!

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

***John 21:13*** *Jesus then cometh, and taketh bread, and giveth them, and fish likewise.*

In heaven, there will be the gathering of all fish for the glory of the Lord Jesus. Remember that all fish, all souls, belong to Jesus. Without his command, we would never catch any fish. Jesus gave the command and all we did was to labor to haul them onboard. “Come and dine” Jesus said to the apostles. Just as Jesus, and not the apostles, prepared the fire and food, in heaven there is a fire being lit so to speak right now. Jesus is preparing his great dinner for us – he is the chef. Can you smell the wonderful aroma of Jesus’ dinner. Make sure you do not miss this greatest of all gatherings and greatest of all dinners. It is a celebration of the gathering of all fish. The fish we have and the fish of Jesus will come together. Cast your net for one last catch. Amen!

***Rev 19:9*** *And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God.*