

The Book of John:
The Disciple Jesus Loved
Study Notes

Chapter 21 PT. 1: Jesus Appears at the Sea of Galilee

Introduction: As we enter this last chapter of our **Journey to Love**, we start with where we finish in **Chapter 20**. The Apostle John has shown us his motivation for writing the Gospel of John: It's all about **LOVE**!



- LOVE for Yeshua.
- LOVE for those who would ever read this Epistle.
- LOVE for those in the future who would need to know the Good News of Jesus Christ and have life.

Understanding: Now Jesus has appeared in the Upper Room for the last time; He had to come back so that Thomas could be given the same opportunity as the others! But this would not be His last appearance.

John 21:1-14

Jesus Appears at the Sea of Galilee

Verses 1-2

John 21:1-2 (NASB) – ¹ After these things Jesus revealed Himself again to the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias, and **He revealed *Himself* in this way:** ² Simon Peter, Thomas who was called Didymus, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the *sons* of Zebedee, and two others of His disciples were together.

Key: What the scriptures mean by, “**He revealed *Himself* in this way**”, is referencing Jesus appearing again in His resurrected body!

Verse 3

John 21:3 (NASB) – ³ Simon Peter said to them, “I am going fishing.” They said to him, “We are also coming with you.” They went out and got into the boat; and that night they caught nothing.



- Peter has immediately stepped into his new role as “leader” and the others are willing to follow.
- Peter is being practical; they have to feed themselves now.
- While they wait to see what they are to do next, they work.
- They have not yet been given the fullness of their calling.

Verse 4

John 21:4 (NASB) – ⁴ But when the day was now breaking, Jesus stood on the beach; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus.

Remember: These are just ordinary men, they may still be trying to get past the first post Resurrection encounter, they were not looking for another.

Verses 5-6

John 21:5-6 (NASB) – ⁵ So Jesus said to them, “Children, you do not have any fish to eat, do you?” They answered Him, “No.” ⁶ And He said to them, “Cast the net on the right-hand side of the boat, and you will find *the fish*.” So they cast *it*, and then they were not able to haul it in because of the great quantity of fish.



Note: Just as before, Jesus would need to do something more than just appear to the Disciples.

- Jesus has to show them it is truly Him.
- Another miracle would be needed before it clicked with **John** that this is Jesus.
- Jesus continues to show us He knows what we need.
- He tells us this in His instructions regarding prayer.

Matthew 6:7-8 (AMP) – ⁷“And when you pray, do not use meaningless repetition as the Gentiles do, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. ⁸So do not be like them [praying as they do]; for your Father knows what you need before you ask Him.

Key: Do not desire someone else’s encounter; Father knows what it takes to build up your most Holy Faith!

Verses 7-8

John 21:7-8 (NASB) – ⁷Therefore **that disciple whom Jesus loved** said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” So when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment (for he was stripped *for work*), and threw himself into the sea. ⁸But the other disciples came in the little boat, for they were not far from the land, but about two hundred cubits away, dragging the net *full* of fish.



- After the first encounter with Jesus, post-Resurrection, it was the Apostle John that was the first to recognize His Master's voice.
- But it was Peter that was again first to act.
- Peter has truly become a leader and a man of action.

Verses 9-10

John 21:9-10 (NASB) – ⁹ So when they got out on the land, they saw a charcoal fire *already* made and fish placed on it, and bread. ¹⁰ Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish which you have now caught.”



- When the Disciples came to land, He had provision ready for them.
- They were wet and cold, weary, and hungry, and they found fire to warm and dry them.
- They were also provided with fish and bread to meet their physical needs.

Verse 11

John 21:11 (NASB) – ¹¹ So Simon Peter went up and hauled the net to land, full of large fish, **153**; and although there were so many, the net was not torn.



Key: Even though the number **153** is never explicitly explained in scripture, it is one of the most studied numbers in scripture.

- Man has come up with all kinds of theories.
- When Scripture does not give the answer, do not try to add to it.
- There are many things that we will not know until we see Him.

1 Corinthians 13:12 (AMP) – ¹² For now [in this time of imperfection] we see in a mirror dimly [a blurred reflection, a riddle, an enigma], but then [when the time of perfection comes we will see reality] face to face. Now I know in part [just in fragments], but then I will know fully, just as I have been fully known [by God].

Understanding: "Seeing through a glass darkly" means our current understanding of spiritual truths and reality is imperfect, indirect, and limited but one day we will know fully.

Yahweh Yireh - "The Lord Will Provide"

Verses 12-14

John 21:12-14 (NASB) – ¹² Jesus said to them, "Come *and* have breakfast." None of the disciples ventured to inquire of Him, "Who are You?" knowing that it was the Lord. ¹³ Jesus came and took the bread and gave *it* to them, and the fish likewise. ¹⁴ This was now the third time that Jesus revealed Himself to the disciples, after He was raised from the dead.



Note: Look at this picture and understand what it means to be a **SERVANT LEADER...Selah.**

- Jesus post-Resurrection is **STILL** being “**The Most Servant of All**”!
- He is our Greatest example of **LOVE**!

The End