

The Gospel of John

Jesus' Post-Resurrection Appearances

John 20-21

John 21:15-25

6/7/20 AM

REBUILDING YOUR BROKEN WORLD or **THE GOD OF SECOND CHANCES**

Introduction:

I. JESUS TO PETER: "Take care of My sheep." (21:15-17)

A. Jesus Delights to Give Us Another Chance

"when they had finished breakfast"

- 1) Jesus came to Peter in his own world.
- 2) Jesus gave Peter an invitation to come back to Him.
- 3) Jesus reissued His commission to Peter.

B. Jesus Asks Good Questions

- 1) you must be in a place where He can speak to you
- 2) you must be ready to listen to what He says
- 3) you must be prepared to hear some hard things
- 4) you must be willing to make changes
- 5) you must keep your eyes on Him alone

¹⁵So when they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love [*agapas*] Me more than these?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know [*oidas*] that I love [*philo*] You." He said to him, "Tend My lambs." ¹⁶He said to him again a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love [*agapas*] Me?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know [*oidas*] that I love [*philo*] You." He said to him, "Shepherd My sheep." ¹⁷He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love [*phileis*] Me?" Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, "Do you love [*phileis*] Me?" And he said to Him, "Lord, You know [*oidas*] all things; You know [*ginoskeis*] that I love [*philo*] You." Jesus said to him, "Tend My sheep."

C. Jesus Commissions Us to Nurture Others

- 1) teach the Bible on some *regular* schedule to others
- 2) teach the Bible *systematically*
- 3) teach the Bible as *comprehensively* as possible
- 4) teach the Bible *prayerfully*
- 5) study the Word of God *obediently*

- James Montgomery Boice

II. JESUS TO PETER AND JOHN: “Follow Me!” (21:18-22)

Matthew 4:19 - “Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.”

A. From Fishermen to Shepherds

- 1) Shepherds have a closer relationship to their subjects.
- 2) The babies need complete nurturing in a comfortable and safe atmosphere.
- 3) The shepherd lives with his flock.

B. From Selfishness to Service

- 1) The Lord sovereignly (and wisely) uses different personalities for His own purpose and glory.
- 2) It may be helpful to learn from those who are different than we are, but it is not profitable to compare our ministries to theirs.
- 3) Great care must be taken continually to evaluate your motivation in serving the Lord.

III. JOHN TO US: “My testimony is true.” (21:23-25)

A. Clearing Up a Point of Confusion

“stretch out your hands”

“not...that he would not die”

“until I come”

B. Confirming Eye-Witness Testimony

“these things”

“we know”

“not even the world itself...”

Conclusion:

- 1) It is important that we recognize and come to terms with our own limitations.
- 2) We need to establish our priorities.
- 3) We must identify and develop our calling before God.

Food for Thought:

- 1) What was John's reason for including this final story as he ends his gospel?
- 2) Why did Jesus compare His followers to sheep?
- 3) In what way(s) were John and Peter specifically used after the Lord's ascension?
- 4) What is entailed in following Jesus as a disciple? Is shepherding primarily the job of elders or should all believers be involved in the task? (Refer to Ephesians 4:11-16 if necessary.)