

## John 21

John 21:1-14 say, "After these things Jesus manifested Himself again to the disciples at the sea of Tiberias, and He manifested Himself this way. Simon Peter, and Thomas called Didymus, and Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, and the sons of Zebedee, and two others of His disciples were together. Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will also come with you." They went out and got into the boat; and that night they caught nothing. But when the day was now breaking, Jesus stood on the beach; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. So Jesus said to them, "Children, you do not have any fish, do you?" They answered Him, "No." And He said to them, "Cast the net on the right-hand side of the boat and you will find a catch." So they cast, and then they were not able to haul it in because of the great number of fish. Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord." So when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put his outer garment on (for he was stripped for work), and threw himself into the sea. But the other disciples came in the little boat, for they were not far from the land, but about one hundred yards away, dragging the net full of fish. So when they got out on the land, they saw a charcoal fire already laid and fish placed on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish which you have now caught." Simon Peter went up and drew the net to land, full of fish, a hundred and fifty-three; and although there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." None of the disciples ventured to question Him, "Who are You?" knowing that it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and the fish likewise. This is now the third time that Jesus was manifested to the disciples, after He was raised from the dead." In this beginning to John 21, the \_\_\_\_\_ for this fishing narrative is to detail Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_ manifestation of His presence to His disciples after His resurrection from the dead to encourage believers reading John's gospel about \_\_\_\_\_ years after Jesus' ascension to His Father's right hand. In this account, not \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus' disciples were present when Peter announced that he would go fishing that evening. But for the disciples that were present, they agreed to go with Peter on his fishing expedition, using two boats. After fishing all night, they caught \_\_\_\_\_. As day broke, the boats were within the sound of Jesus' voice, who asked them if they had made a catch. When they responded that they had not, Jesus (though they did not know it was Jesus) told them to cast their net on the right side of the larger boat, and they would find a catch. They did indeed find a great catch, whereby the

\_\_\_\_\_ of experience to when these fisherman were first called by Jesus to follow Him moved John to declare, "It is the \_\_\_\_\_!" Jesus, as He awaited their arrival with \_\_\_\_\_ fish in their net (not torn!), already had fish cooking on a charcoal fire, along with bread. Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ them to have breakfast with Him, and to bring some of the fish they had caught. These disciples had a breakfast meal of fish and bread with Jesus their Lord; His third appearance to them after His resurrection from the dead. This breakfast set-up gave Jesus the opportunity to speak to Peter as they took a walk on the beach after the meal.

John 21:15-19 say, "So when they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love Me more than these?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Tend My lambs." He said to him again a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love Me?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, Shepherd My sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, 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, "Tend My sheep. Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were younger, you used to gird yourself and walk wherever you wished; but when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands and someone else will gird you, and bring you where you do not wish to go." Now this He said, signifying by what kind of death he would glorify God. And when He had spoken this, He said to him, "Follow Me!" One is encountered to wonder what Jesus meant when He asked Peter if he loved Him "more than \_\_\_\_\_?" There is no way to have certainty about what "these" were from Jesus' question. In any event, Jesus, using "agape" (the love of definite will and commitment) here and again the second time, wanted to hear from Peter that his commitment to Him to follow Him in the \_\_\_\_\_ and in the \_\_\_\_\_ would be in place. Peter affirmed that he would be fully committed in love to follow Jesus again. The third question by Jesus about Peter loving Him used the Greek verb for love, "phileo" (\_\_\_\_\_ love – the love of emotion and relationship). Peter was hurt that Jesus asked him a third time if he loved Him. Peter, perhaps had not fully realized how much he had hurt Jesus when he \_\_\_\_\_ any relationship with Jesus at all after Jesus had been arrested and taken to the Jewish religious leaders for the mockery of a trial with \_\_\_\_\_ perpetrated against Jesus. After Jesus heard Peter's cry of emotion that he did love Jesus, Jesus told him that \_\_\_\_\_ (feeding) His sheep would involve a following of Him that would be costly. Earlier, Peter had

\_\_\_\_\_ that he would die for Jesus in following Him. We all know how that ended—in Peter’s threefold denial. But here, Jesus told Peter that his following Him would eventually end in his \_\_\_\_\_. Before Peter could respond, Jesus once again said to Peter, “Follow Me!”

John 21:20-22 say, “Peter, turning around, saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them; the one who also had leaned back on His bosom at the supper and said, “Lord, who is the one who betrays You?” So Peter seeing him said to Jesus, “Lord, and what about this man?” Jesus said to him, “If I want him to remain until I come, what is that to you! You must follow Me!” \_\_\_\_\_ had been following Jesus and Peter as they walked a little distance behind them. Peter, just having been told the \_\_\_\_\_ of his following the Lord, wanted to know from Jesus what John’s “cost” of following Him would be. Jesus gave him no information about John except that John would follow Jesus according to God’s \_\_\_\_\_, even if John would remain alive until His coming John. Jesus again told Peter to follow Him with all of his heart in God’s will (and to leave Jesus’ other followers to Him—it is implied by His words). From these verses, it is true that every believer in the Lord is in His hands as it concerns his going \_\_\_\_\_ to heaven to be with Him, although this is always so far beyond our human understanding of God’s will (see Hebrews 11 as a prime example of this).

John 21:23-24 say, “Therefore this saying went out among the brethren that that disciple would not die; yet Jesus did not say to him that he would not die, but only, “If I want him to remain until I come, what is that to you?” This is the disciple who is testifying to these things and wrote these things, and we know that his testimony is true.” The conversation of Jesus with Peter about John got out to the Christian community to mean that John, like Enoch and Elijah before him, would \_\_\_\_\_ experience physical death. All that we know for sure is that John wrote the New Testament book of Revelation from the island of \_\_\_\_\_, where he had been banished because of his faith in Jesus, the Son of God. Certainly John was old in years by then—perhaps the longest living \_\_\_\_\_ disciple of Jesus. The “we” know written by John here concerned those believers testifying along with John to our Lord Jesus’ resurrection from the dead!

John 21:25 says, “And there are also many other things which Jesus did, which if they were written in detail, I suppose that even the world itself would not contain the books that would be written.” This closing verse of John’s gospel describes Jesus’ \_\_\_\_\_ as “many,” well beyond the scope of detail that even John wrote

about. But Christians then and throughout every generation have everything needed as to the \_\_\_\_\_ of salvation given to us through the Holy Spirit to believe in Jesus Christ and to be saved!