



“Lovest Thou Me?”

John 21:1-17

I. PETER CORRUPTED

A. PETER WAS INSTRUCTED (JOHN 20:19-23)

Romans 8:9, “But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.”

Ephesians 5:18, “And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;”

B. PETER WAS AN INFLUENCE (JOHN 21:2)

Proverbs 27:17, “Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend.”

C. PETER WAS INEFFECTIVE (JOHN 21:3)

II. PETER CONFRONTED (JOHN 21:5)

A. THE EXAMINATION (JOHN 21:15-17)

- There is a question about arrogance.
 - Jesus starts off by calling him Simon. Remember, Simon was his name before Jesus changed it. It’s like Jesus is saying, “Peter, if you want to live the old way, you can have your old name back.”
 - Jesus made a fire when Peter went to talk to him because it was by the fire that Peter denied Christ.
 - When Peter was called into the ministry, he had a great catch of fish that day and now that he wants to leave the ministry, again he is given a great catch of fish.
 - Jesus asks him three times if he loved him which was the same amount of times he denied Christ.
- There is a question about agape.
 - Jesus asks with the word “agape”, but Peter answers with the lesser form of the word, “phileo”.

B. THE EXHORTATION

- Feed my **lambs**. “Feed” is from the Greek word “bosko” meaning to help the lambs to grow. In other words, Disciple New Converts.

- Feed my **sheep**. Here “Feed” is from the Greek word *poimaino* meaning to tend to or shepherd the sheep. To be fed and disciplined.

*Twas a sheep not a lamb that strayed away, in the parable Jesus told,
A grown-up sheep that had gone astray, from the ninety and nine in the fold.
Out on the hillside, out in the cold, it was a sheep the good shepherd sought;
And back to the fold, safe to the fold, it was a sheep the good shepherd brought.
And why for the sheep should we earnestly long, and earnestly hope and pray?
Because there is danger if they go wrong, that they will lead the lambs astray.
For the lambs will follow the sheep, you know, wherever the sheep may stray.
When the sheep go wrong, it will not be long, till the lambs are as wrong as they.
And so with the sheep we earnestly plead, for the sake of the lambs, today;
If the lambs are lost, what a terrible cost, some sheep will have to pay.*

III. PETER COMMISSIONED

I Timothy 3:10, “And let these also first be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon, being found blameless.”

I Timothy 3:6, “Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil.”

A. THE REVELATION (JOHN 21:18)

B. THE RESPONSE (JOHN 21:20-21)

C. THE REBUKE (JOHN 21:22)

I Thessalonians 4:17, “Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.”

- This is called the doctrine of imminence; that we are to live each day expecting Christ to come back.

Titus 2:13, “Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;”

- If the rapture takes place in the middle of the tribulation, as some pastors out there misbelieve, then there is no doctrine of imminence.

“I hear people say, how can a loving God send anybody to Hell? I don’t have a problem understanding that. The more I see the rotten nature of mankind and the wickedness of the human race, I don’t wonder why God could send a person to Hell. What I don’t understand is how God could love people so much that He would send His Son to die for them.” – Dr. Bob Jones, Sr.

PRINCIPLE 1: Backsliding is seldom a solitary activity.

PRINCIPLE 2: If you’ve walked with Jesus, you will never really enjoy walking anyplace else.

PRINCIPLE 3: Jesus uses people who mess up.

PRINCIPLE 4: Jesus will take you where you are.

PRINCIPLE 5: Jesus wants you to quit worrying about others and follow Him.