

**Series "Jesus: God And Savior"**  
**"Committed To Jesus Christ"**  
**John 21:15-25**  
**Part-69**

**John 13:37-38**

Peter had denied Jesus 3X. Jesus was going to restore Peter with a question asked 3X. Jesus had already met with Peter, **Luke 24:34; 1 Corinthian 15:5.**

Peter had sinned publically, so the other disciples needed to hear from Jesus Himself that Peter was restored to service, that Peter "remade" would lead.

**Thought Of Our Passage:** "When We Love And Serve Jesus, We Follow And Glorify Him, Keeping Our Eyes On Him."

**1. Verses 15-17 – Love For Jesus**

**2. Verses 18-19 – Sacrifice For Jesus**

**3. Verses 20-25 – Focus On Jesus**

**1. Verses 15-17 – Love For Jesus:**

John 21:15 – "So when they had finished breakfast," – Context – Jesus had revealed Himself to the disciples after a fruitless night of fishing, John 21:1-14. Jesus had called Peter and 3 others after a night of fruitless fishing, Luke 5:1-11. Jesus now meets them again after another night of fruitless labor; Directs them to cast the net and fish, John 21:9; 12-14.

"Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon, son of John,'" – Jesus now wants to restore Peter back to ministry, Luke 22:32.

"Simon Peter, 'Simon, son of John,'" – His name had been changed to Peter – "Rock," but he had been acting like sand.

"do you love Me" – Peter is asked 3X. We see here the word "love" that is used by Jesus and Peter, but there are 2 different words that are used here.

"Love" – "Agape" – "the decision a person makes to commit oneself completely to another's benefit." It is the highest of love; it is divine.

"Phileo" – "a deep but natural affection, like brotherly or family love."

1<sup>st</sup> Question – Peter Claimed To Love Jesus More Than The Other Disciples Did: “do you love Me” – Jesus is using the word “Agape.” He did not say “will you obey me?” He wants our love.

What is meant by “more than these?” Peter, do you love more than these men? Matthew 26:33

“He said to Him, ‘Yes, Lord; You know that I love You.’” – Peter uses the word “Phileo,” a deep but natural affection, like brotherly or family love (Fond of you). Peter cannot bring himself to say he “agape,” deeply loves Jesus!

He said to him, “Tend My lambs.” – “Tend” – “to keep on feeding, to continue to take care of and provide for the flock.” “Lambs” – “the little ones; speaks of immaturity, vulnerable,” Acts 20:28.

2 Timothy 4:1-5

What Is The Motive for Service: Punishment – Reward – Love – I want to serve because I love God.

John 21:16

2<sup>nd</sup> Question – Peter’s Sincerity Of His Love To Jesus: “He said to him again a second time, ‘Simon, son of John, do you love Me?’” – Jesus is using the word “Agape.”

“He said to Him, ‘Yes, Lord; You know’” – Peter knew that Jesus knew all things.

“that I love You.” – “Phileo” (Fond of you!) Peter won’t say “agape;” broken man!

“He said to him, ‘Shepherd My sheep.’” – “to tend, to shepherd.” One that will teach and care for them. (Fed and led)

John 21:17

3<sup>rd</sup> Question – Peter Do You Really Have A Fondness For Jesus: “He said to him the third time, ‘Simon, son of John, do you love Me?’” – Jesus now descends to Peter’s word “Phileo” (Fond of you!). Are you really fond of Me?

“Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, ‘Do you love Me?’” – Peter was wrenched by the question the 3<sup>rd</sup> time.

Peter uses the same word again “Phileo” (Fond of you!).

"Lord, You know all things;" – Peter refers to the omniscience of God/Jesus. Peter is so broken and unsure of himself he cannot even say to Jesus that he "agape" Him.

"You know that I love You." – He was now humbled and not confident in himself. We need to trust in God, not in our own strength and abilities. "Jesus said to him, 'Tend My sheep.'" – "to feed," 1 Peter 5:2-4.

**Peter is restored because he has discovered that he can't serve God in his own strength!**

## **2. Verses 18-19 – Sacrifice For Jesus:**

John 21:18 – "Truly, truly," – "of a truth, absolute truth" – "I say to you, when you were younger, you used to gird yourself, and walk wherever you wished;"

Peter's Death Predicted: "but when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands," – Jesus describes Peter's crucifixion, stretched out on the cross. Commitment to God requires sacrifice!

"and someone else will gird you, and bring you where you do not wish to go." – Peter's imprisonment, 2 Peter 1:14.

John 21:19 – "Now this He said, signifying by what kind of death he would glorify God." – Jesus, possessing omniscience, predicted the martyrdom of Peter.

And when He had spoken this, He said to him, 'Follow Me!'" – "Keep on following Me." This is the only way that any of us can be faithful and effective; to follow Him.

## **3. Verses 20-25 – Focus On Jesus:**

John 21:20

John does not call himself John because He came to write about Jesus. When we speak about Jesus we are to step out of the way and only Jesus should be seen.

"and said, 'Lord, who is the one who betrays You?'" – John 13:23-26.

John 21:21 – "Lord, and what about this man?" – Peter has just been restored, has been given a position as a shepherd, Peter's death is

predicted, now he is concerned about John. Does John get privileged treatment?

John 21:22

Jesus Rebukes Peter: "Jesus said to him, 'If I want him to remain until I come, what is that to you?'" – Basically, what Jesus said, "Even if it is My will that he remain until I come, that is no business of yours."

"what is that to you?" – God has a sovereign right to determine Peter's future; God has the same right for John!

"You follow Me!" – "Keep on following me." Keep your eyes on Me!

Verse 23 – John's Footnote: John 21:23.

Verses 24-25 – John's Concluding Testimony: John 21:24.

"and wrote these things;" – It was John who wrote this gospel. 93% of this Gospel is not in the other Gospel's. John was an eyewitness.

"and we know that his testimony is true." – The testimony of John is trustworthy. "A testimonial regarding a testimony."

John 21:25

"And there are also many other things which Jesus did," – When we read the gospels, we are getting the highlights of His life.

The Inexhaustibility of Jesus' Story: "which if they were written in detail, I suppose that even the world itself would not contain the books that would be written."

### **Application:**

1. What Will We Do With What We Have Discovered In The Pages Of John's Gospel?
2. What Is My Part In God's Plan Of Salvation For The World? God Had A Plan For Peter and John. God Also Has A Plan For Me.
3. When We Love And Serve Jesus, We Follow And Glorify Him, Keeping Our Eyes On Him.