

Series "Jesus: God And Savior"
"The Last Miracle"
John 21:1-14
Part-68

Warren Wiersbe in his book **"On Being a Servant of God"** said, "Ministry takes place when divine resources meet human needs through loving channels to the glory of God."

John 15:5 – "for apart from Me you can do nothing."

Thought Of Our Passage: "Our Pursuits As Disciples Of Jesus Will Be Fruitless Unless They Are God Directed And Empowered."

1. Verses 1-3 – Empty Pursuits

2. Verses 4-11 – Miraculous Catch

3. Verses 12-14 – Breakfast With Jesus

1. Verses 1-3 – Empty Pursuits:

John 21:1 – "After these things" – What things? Jesus appeared to Mary, then the 10 disciples that first Sunday of the resurrection. Then 8 days later to all 11.

"Jesus manifested Himself again to the disciples" – "to make visible."

"at the Sea of Tiberias," – This is another name for the sea of Galilee. Named after Tiberius Caesar. Tiberias was founded in 18 AD by Herod Antipas, son of Herod the great and Jewish ruler of the Galilee; southwestern shore.

Mark 14:28 – "I will go ahead of you to Galilee." – Matthew 28:16 – appointed mountain.

"and He manifested Himself in this way." – After the resurrection, the Bible records 10-11 appearances of Jesus.

John 21:2 – There are 7 disciples that were there when Jesus manifested Himself.

1 Corinthians 1:26-29

"Simon Peter" – We need to note that Simon was his earthly name given by his parents; when Simon is acting like the natural man. Peter is the new name given by Jesus; his spiritual name.

"Thomas called Didymus," – (Twin) The man that was willing to die with Jesus, but got caught up in unbelief. (All struggle in the faith)

Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, John 1:47.

"sons of Zebedee," – James and John. "The Son's Of Thunder," Luke 9:54.

"and two others of His disciples." – The Holy Spirit left their names out.

John 21:3 – "Simon Peter said to them, 'I am going fishing.'" – I don't know if Peter was completely deserting the ministry, Luke 24:34. Peter had met with the Lord. Matthew 4:19-20 – They forsook their careers and followed Jesus for 3 years. Matthew walked away from tax collecting.

"They said to him, 'We will also come with you.'" – This shows the leadership abilities of Peter.

"They went out, and got into the boat; and that night they caught nothing."

Why did these men catch nothing when they were seasoned fisherman? God was not leading Peter.

We must fail in order to succeed.

2. Verses 4-11 – Miraculous Catch:

John 21:4 – "But when the day was now breaking," – A new day!

Psalm 30:5

"Jesus stood on the beach; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus."

We can fail to see the Lord in our failures.

John 21:5 – "Children" – "small children;" it is an endearing term of one that has a loving fatherly relationship.

Jesus Asked A Question: "you do not have any fish, do you?" – "So, you haven't caught anything, right?" (Jesus knew they caught nothing)

"They answered Him, 'No.'" – Why would God, who is omniscient, ask such a question?

God could be asking Us the question this morning: you do not have any fruitfulness, do you?"

John 21:6

Jesus Gives A Command: "Cast the net on the right-hand side of the boat, and you will find a catch."

The difference is about 6 feet (The Difference is God's Will).

Fruitfulness is being where God wants us to be, doing what God wants us to do, and the way God said it should be done.

"So they cast," – they obeyed, which reveals their humility!

Jesus Sends His Blessing: "and then they were not able to haul it in because of the great number of fish." – "disciples repeatedly tugged at the heavy net."

N.L.T. Psalm 127:1-2

When we are ready to receive, God is ready to give, but we must be humbled and allow Him to use us!

John 21:7 – "that disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter," – This is John.

"It is the Lord." – Jesus called Peter and 3 others after a night of fruitless fishing, Luke 5:1-11, and now after the resurrection, Jesus now meets them again after another night of fruitless labor. Put it together and you get "It is the Lord."

"and threw himself into the sea." – John was faster to understand than Peter, but Peter was quicker to act.

John 21:8

John 21:9 – Note, charcoal fire, John 18:18. Peter denied the Lord in the courtyard of the High Priest.

His Provision: "already laid, and fish placed on it,"

"and bread." – Jesus fed the 5000, John 6:10, with bread and fish. God can and does do the miraculous in paying a tax. He told the disciples to go fishing, Matthew 17:27.

John 21:10

For Whom God guides, God provides. When we are doing what God wants us to do, where God wants us to do it, and how God wants us to do it, there will be ample provision.

John 21:11 – “full of large fish, a hundred and fifty-three;” – It means 153 large fish!

“although there were so many, the net was not torn.” – This was miraculous in that the net could hold so many fish and not break under the strain.

3. Verses 12-14 – Breakfast With Jesus:

John 21:12

His Fellowship: “Jesus said to them, ‘Come and have breakfast.’” – The Jews would eat 2X a day.

“breakfast” – comes from the concept that they would not eat from evening the day before then the next morning they would “break” the “fast,” “Breakfast.”

When the Jews would eat, it was much more than just having a meal. “Same bread that nourishes me nourishes you and we become one.”

John 21:13-14

This is now the third time that Jesus was manifested to the disciples: 1st – Jesus met with the 10, John 20:19; 2nd – To the 11, John 20:26; 3rd – Now, Sea of Galilee to the 7, John 21. Peter later remembered this appearance, Acts 10:41.

Application:

1. Recognize Our Limitations. We Should Do Our Best, But Ultimately Success Is Up To God. Without The Lord’s Help, Our Expertise And Diligence Will Come To Nothing.
2. We Must Focus Upon Priorities. All Believers Are Called To Make Disciples. All Believers Are Called To Bring Glory To God.
3. Fruitfulness Is Being Where God Wants Us To Be, Doing What God Wants Us To Do, And The Way God Said It Should Be Done.