

POOR DISCIPLES -- POWERFUL GOSPEL

Sunday, April 27, 2025 -- After the Resurrection -- Pastor Andrew Coleman

JOHN 21:1-14

English Standard Version (ESV)

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4 Just as day was breaking, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. **5** Jesus said to them, "Children, do you have any fish?" They answered him, "No." **6** He said to them, "Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in, because of the quantity of fish. **7** That disciple whom Jesus loved therefore said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he was stripped for work, and threw himself into the sea. **8** The other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, but about a hundred yards off.

9 When they got out on land, they saw a charcoal fire in place, with fish laid out on it, and bread. **10** Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." **11** So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, 153 of them. And although there were so many, the net was not torn. **12** Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. **13** Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and so with the fish. **14** This was now the third time that Jesus was revealed to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

BACKGROUND: The RESURRECTION to the ASCENSION of Jesus -- 40 DAY PERIOD

Matthew chapter 28

Acts 3:15

Romans 6:5; 8:11

Mark chapter 16

1 Corinthians 15:6

1 Timothy 3:16

Luke chapter 24

Hebrews 2:14-15; 13:20;

1 Peter 1:3

John chapters 20 & 21

1 Thessalonians 4:14

Revelation 1:5; 20:11-15

Acts 1:1-11

THE APPEARANCES of Christ between the RESURRECTION and the ASCENSION:

To Mary Magdalene

John 20:11-12

To Women at the Tomb

Matthew 28:1-6

To Peter

Luke 24:34

To Two Disciples Emmaus Road

Luke 24:13-15

To 10 Apostles (sans Thomas)*

John 20:19-23

To 11 Apostles (with Thomas)*

John 20:26-28

To Disciples at the Sea of Galilee*

John 21:1-23

To the Apostles & 500 brethren

1 Corinthians 15:5-6

To James

1 Corinthians 15:7

To the Apostles at the Ascension

Acts 1:9-11

ISAIAH 55:8-9 GOD'S GRANDER PLAN

8 'For My thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways My ways,' declares the Lord.
9 'For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are My ways higher than your ways
and My thoughts than your thoughts.'

THE SIGNIFICANCE of these APPEARANCES/EVENTS:

- 1) Jesus CONFIRMS His resurrection to His disciples.
- 2) Jesus RECONCILES with His disciples (after their desertion).
- 3) Jesus PREPARES His disciples for their coming ministry.
- 4) Jesus COMMISSIONS His disciples for their work in the Kingdom of God.

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CONTEXT:

- After Christ's death and resurrection He made occasional appearances to His disciples.
- The Passover festival was over and disciples had returned home to Galilee.

OBSERVATIONS from the TEXT:

1) See the POVERTY of the disciples. vs 1-4

- A) Economic poverty. vs 3
- B) Political poverty. (not in Jerusalem/Rome)
- C) Physical poverty. vs 4 & 6
- D) Moral/spiritual poverty. vs 3

JOHN 15:4-5

4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. **5** I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in Me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do **nothing**.

2) See the DIVERSITY AND UNITY of the disciples. vs 2

- A) passionate/impulsive **Peter**. vs 2
- B) insightful/deep/artistic **John**. vs 2
- C) pessimistic/doubting **Thomas**. vs 2
- D) little known/unknown **others**. vs 2

I CORINTHIANS 12:12-13

12 For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. **13** For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

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OBSERVATIONS from the TEXT:

3) See the **POWER** of the Lord — in His **Word & Spirit**.

- A) the power of His pursuit/presence. vs 1, 4
- B) the power of His Words over ALL THINGS. vs 5-6
- C) the power of His loving care. vs 9-13
- D) the power of His grace/forgiveness. vs 1 & 14

IMPLICATIONS & APPLICATIONS:

- 1) Without Christ we can do nothing that is eternal.
- 2) God's people are incredibly diverse... all for His glory and purposes.
- 3) God's people must learn to RECOGNIZE, TRUST and OBEY Him.
When we do, there will be miraculous results and blessing.
- 4) It is only the power of Christ and His Gospel that can change the world.

PASTOR J.C. RYLE

England (1816-1900)

*God doesn't need all your powerful talents, learned education or great holiness...
what he needs is someone who **loves Him** and **obeys Him**. With that, He will change the world.*