John 21:1-17 JESUS AND PETER AUDITORIUM CLASS SUNDAY MORNING AT EOVE IS THE INSPIRATION OF LIFE GLASGOW, KENTUCKY December 31, 1967 LOVE IS LIFE: HATRED IS DEATH

PETER'S NEW CONCERN: The fishing business.

INTRODUCTION: On at least two occasions before this time, and possibly three: Luke 24:34; John 20:1-23; 24-29. Maybe 4 times: John 21:14 PETER IS STILL PETER: He provides us an example fo that old saying; "God

Israel our of Egypt in one night, but it took him forty years to bring Egypt our of Israel." ANOTHER WAY OF SAYING THE SAME THING IS: "To bring a man into the kingdom of God

is relatively easy when compared with the task of making that same man like Christ (1 John 3:1-3.)

SERVICE IN SELF-WILL A FAILURE

1.A picture of service in self-will under human leadership. John 21:3 1. "Simon Peter saith unto them, I go a fishing. They say to him, We will also go with thee. They went forth, and entered into a ship immediately; and that night they caught nothing."

2. Service in self-will tested.

- 1. John 21;5; "Then Jesus saith unto them, Children, have ye any meat? They answered him no.
- 3. Christ-directed service a success.
 - 1. "And he said unto them, Cast the net on the right side of the ship, and ye shall find. They cast therefore, and now they were not able to draw it for the multitude of fishes." John 21:6-11

THE SCENE OF THE BREAKFAST

- 1. On the shore of the sea of Tiberias. The crowd present:
 - 1. Small group of fisherman: Perhaps no more than seven.
- 2. Where were the other disciples? I do not know. PREPARATION FOR THE BRUAKPAST

THE BREAKFAST PREPARED AND THE INVITATION TO COME AND DINE

1. The two fires in Peter's experience. A contrast one between the two: 1. The first fire. John 18:18; "And the servants and officers stood there

, who made a fire of coals; for it was cold: and they warmed themselves: and Peter stood with them, and warmed himself."

- 2. The second fire. "As soon then as they were come to land, they saw a fire of coals there, and fish laid thereon and bread." John 21:9
- 3. Peter before the fires.
 - 1. The fire must have been searing Peter's conscience as his mind went back to that fire of John 18:18.
 - . 1. At this first fire Peter sat with the enemies of the Lord. . 2. There he hungered and there was no food for his soul.
 - 2. Peter sat at the fire of our lesson, John 21;9, and he sat with the Lord's people. Here he sat at the Lord's own table. not the "table of devils". He knew that he could not be partaker of both tables. L Cor. 10:21

THE AFTER BREAKFAST QUESTION " Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? John 21:15

- 1. What did Christ mean by this question? I may not know fully. Some have suggested the following: EM PLBEEL
 - 1. Simon, do you love me more than John and the others love me? 2. Simon, do you love me more then you love these brethren?
- 3. Simon so quickly and so easily you went fishing. Simon do you love me more than you love to fish?

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SOUTH GREEN STREET GLASGOW, KENTUCKY 42141 what did Christ mean by this question? I may not know fully. Some have

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JESS HALL, MINISTER LINE AND TOAS TO LISUA CHURCH: 651-5001 on so quickly and so easily you went fishing. Simon do you love 100 MAPLEWOOD PLACE

THE THREE STAGES OF THE TEST

- 1. "Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these." John 21;15
 - 1. Peter's answer, "Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee."

1. Jesus' answer, "Feed my lambs."

2. Feed, provide, nourish.

- 1. Agapao: a stronger word meaning love without thought of something in return.
- 2. Phileo: The word used by Peter which seeks return for affection.
- 2. Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? John 21:16
 - 1. Peter's second answer, "Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee."

1. Jesus answered, "Feed my sheep."

- 2. Peter seems to be saying, "Yea, Lord I am ready to meet the test.
- 3. Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? John 21:17
 - 1. Peter's answer this time, Peter was grieved that the Lord had asked him the question the third time when he answered, "Lord, thou knowest all things: thou

knowest that I love thee."

1. Jesus' answer to Peter, "Feed my sheept."

- 2. In this question Jesus uses Peter's lower word for love: Phileo.
 - 1. Are you quite sure Peter that you have even this lower kind of love?
 - 2. So our Lord sifts Peter, not like Satan, to keep the chaff (Luke 22:31), but to preserve the wheat.

THE WORK THAT PETER WAS TO DO

1. FEED MY LAMBS

1. The first condition for this work of feeding.

- 1. Love to Christ is the high and main condition of faithful service.
- 2. Feed my little sheep: those young and tender in years.

2. FEED MY SHEEP

- 1. Learn to guide and direct, protect from outter foes the sheeplings from foes without. SHEEPLINGS: Those between Lambs and grown sheep.
- 3. FEED MY SHEEP
 - 1. This expression seems to identify those:

1. That are old, yet young in heart and childlike in spirit.

2. The trembling sheep, those grown old in years and who are now feeble and who sometimes need more care than the lambs themselves.

Thought: We see three stages of growth here and this may be like John's expression in 1 John 2:12-14: where speaks of "little children, fathers, and young men."

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