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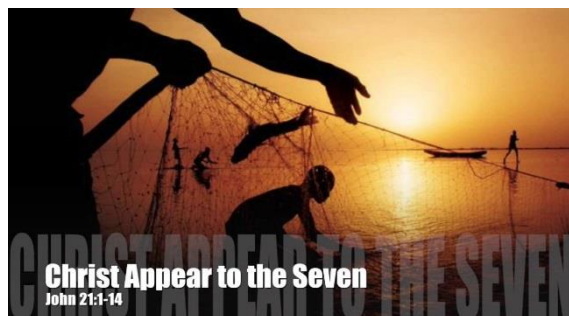
THE REVEREND JONATHAN C. AUGUSTINE, J.D., M.Div., PASTOR

April 18, 2018:
“The Last Breakfast”

I Prayer

II Introduction and Recap of Last Week’s Lesson

In last week’s Bible Study, **“Seasons Change: The Easter Season’s Celebration of Faith,”** we looked not only at the significance of the church’s liturgical seasons, with a focus on the celebratory Easter Season, but we also saw Jesus make three post-Resurrection appearances. First, in *John 20*, Mary Magdalene mistook Jesus for the gardener, when she was weeping outside the empty tomb. Second, on the evening of Resurrection Sunday, Jesus showed up for the disciples, in the Upper Room, and said “peace be with you!” They were hiding out for fear that the same things that happened to Jesus would happen to them, too. Finally, *John 20* also introduced us to “Doubting Thomas,” the disciple who was not present when Jesus visited the Upper Room on the evening of Resurrection Sunday. Thomas remarked that he would not believe unless he saw Jesus for himself! Jesus then came back again, a week later, making his third appearance overall and second appearance to the disciples, with the famous story of Doubting Thomas touching his hands and side, where he had been pierced while on the cross.

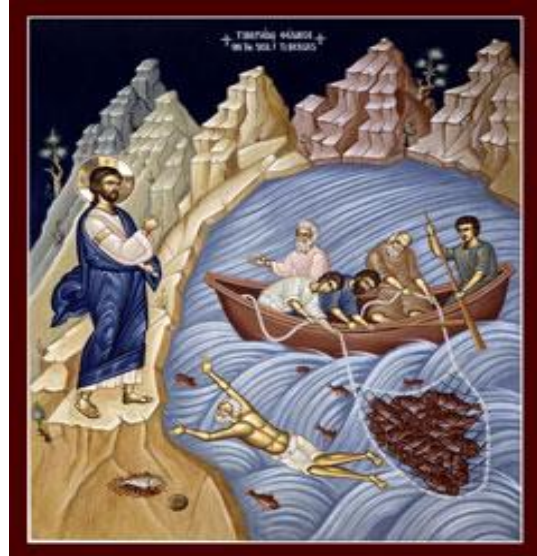


This evening, we move in the *John* narrative of Jesus’s post-Resurrection appearances to chapter 21, where Jesus appears to seven of the disciples, as we talk from the topic **“The Last Breakfast.”** Things are much different for this post-Resurrection appearance (the third to the disciples and fourth according to *John*’s gospel). The location relates to the Resurrection Sunday sermon, in how the *Gospel of Mark* ends, giving the reader the responsibility of going ahead and meeting Jesus in Galilee. Indeed, it’s in Galilee where Jesus has **“The Last Breakfast”** and where the attention focuses on Peter and lessons learned through his interaction with “the beloved disciple.”

III Examining the Text: *John 21* (read out loud)

- What’s different about the way chapter 21 begins (21:1), in contrast to the way chapter 20 told us of Jesus’s earlier post-Resurrection appearances (*see, e.g., 20:1; 20:19; and 20:26*)? Where is Jesus in chapter 21? (Note: the Sea of Tiberius (21:1) is also known as the Sea of Galilee How does this relate to *Mark 16:6-7*?)

- By 21:3, Peter is clear that *he* is going fishing? Where did Jesus find Peter, when Jesus initially called Peter into the ministry (*i.e.*, What was Peter doing? HINT: *Matthew* 4:18-19). Based on the difference in location (Jerusalem in *John* 20 and Galilee in *John* 21), and the way the chapter begins, some significant time has passed. What do you think Peter and the others have been doing (HINT: *John* 16:32)? What does Peter mean that *he* is going fishing?



- Skip now to the interaction between Jesus and Peter in verses 15-17. Three times, as they were interacting, Jesus questions Peter. Is this similar to any other trilogy, where Peter was questioned three times (HINT *Matthew* 26: 69-75)? What do you think Jesus meant by telling Peter to “feed his sheep,” especially considering that Peter was clear he was “going fishing,” after considerable time had passed (Hint: *Matthew* 16:18-19)? Question: HAVE YOU EVER “GONE FISHING” ON JESUS?



- Let’s go back to 21:4-8, Jesus appears to the disciples, again, but they do not recognize him. Who is the first disciple that does recognize Jesus (Who is it that tells Peter it’s Jesus)? HINT: the reference “the disciple whom Jesus loved”—see *John* 19:26; 20:2 and 21:24—This is a consistent reference in *John* (see also 13:23-25) Who is this unnamed, but “beloved disciple” and

how does his role play out with respect to the other disciples (see 20:24 Discussion)?) What do you think Peter was doing when the “beloved disciple” told him of Jesus’ appearance? At that moment in time, as Peter had “gone fishing,” how do you think Jesus’s appearance made him feel? Has Jesus ever shown-up on you when you were “gone fishing?”

- Consider verse 19. It doesn’t paint a bright picture for Peter’s future. What about the disciple whom Jesus loved? What’s the reference in verses 21-22? If we are “following Jesus,” should we ever be concerned about Jesus’s plans for someone else’s life (UNPACK: cars & homes; material possessions; life activities, *etc.*). What does this say about the priority we should give Jesus in our lives (REAL TALK)?

IV Questions and Open Discussion

V Closing Prayer