

**“Jesus Has A Wonderful Plan For Your Death” John 21 The Epilogue**

*John 21:18-25; 2<sup>nd</sup> Peter 1:12-19*

**Peter learned a lot during his service to the Lord Jesus which lasted for about thirty years after the Cross and the resurrection.**

This is certainly a result of Jesus questioning Peter’s commitment to His cause when He asked in effect; “Peter, do you love Me; not based on your false fleshly confidence with which you told Me that you’d die for Me but instead based on Who I am and never on who you think you are?”

*Our primary motivation for service as well as in everything that we do MUST BE our love for Jesus Christ or otherwise it’s misdirected.*

*Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory. Isaiah 6:3*

**JESUS GLORIFIES THE FATHER IN THREE WAYS:**

- 1. On earth throughout His public and private ministries.*
- 2. In His diligent preparation of the disciples.*
- 3. At His climactic hour of victory on the Cross.*

**The earth’s darkest hour was the Lord Jesus Christ’s brightest, most victorious moment!**

Grace alone at first does the work and then faith alone in Christ alone responds and receives all the benefit from God alone.

**Grace orientation understood and genuine humility practiced must precede any biblical communication being expressed.**

It’s not the pastor’s job to manipulate the sheep because nervous sheep do not eat well. Now Peter finally understands that it’s the Lord’s church and it’s his job to feed the Lord’s sheep!

**Actually, the Lord Jesus is simply saying “Peter, if you are humble enough to admit that your love isn’t what it ought to be, I can definitely use you!”**

We can’t really say we love the Lord Jesus unless we first know of the love He has for us and that’s what causes us to seek to do His will for He said

*“If you love Me, you’ll keep My commandments. ”It was grace that led Peter to repentance and that required some painful acknowledgement and objectivity to concentrate on his failure and not its consequences.*

Peter’s confidence will now be in Jesus Christ and no longer in Simon bar Jonah because his genuine repentance led him to loving respectful obedience.

Peter didn’t know what his love had to be until he knew what his love hadn’t been!

**Peter was vigorous, powerful, independent and dynamic as a young man.**

The older Peter gets, the more feeble and physically helpless he becomes but at the same time, the more spiritually strong he becomes, demonstrated by the fact that he will be ‘filling nets’ or souls with biblical truth like never before in his youth!

*Peter will actually be too weak to make his way to his own crucifixion.*

**In Peter’s old age, he had a spiritual strength that far exceeded any physical independence because biblical truth in the soul makes old age wonderful.**

Before any pastor-teacher can feed the sheep, he must first of all follow the Good Shepherd. *But Peter’s naked soul will be beautiful because a stocked soul inventory of the mind of Christ in us reflects the awesome glory of God!*

Peter is going to be a student of the Word of God all his life because he’s an ordained communicator of biblical truth.

**Mental attitude sins attack the privacy of others.**

John was simply doing what Peter was commanded to do; he was following Jesus.

*John has his eyes on the Lord but Peter has his eyes on John and that's a problem for Peter.*

If our motivation for sticking our noses into someone else's business is competition, we're certainly guilty of judging them.

**Free-will must operate apart from coercion or pressure of any kind.**

It's God Who designs our lives.

*Peter's job is to live his life as unto the Lord.*

Be careful what you say and who you say it to.

People tend to hear only what they want to hear.

**The Lord Jesus was always clear in His communication but people still distorted it into something He did not intend.**

**Once the Scripture is completed, it's no longer necessary for God to speak through dreams, visions or angelic teaching, so that's why it's only by way of His Word.**

Dictation holds no more authority than any other aspect of the process of compiling and recording God's Word.

*Inspiration guarantees the accuracy of: 1. The unknown past, 2. Ancient history,*

*3. Objective law. 4. Dictation of direct quotes from God, 5. Devotional literature,*

*6. The recording of falsehoods, 7. Prophecy.*

**The material in the Gospel of John is selective and exactly what God the Holy Spirit wanted.**

A person can probably read John's recorded words in approximately three hours but if all that the infinite Son of God said and did were pondered, the results would be endless!