

**Seven Men in a Ship Casting the Net for The First and the Last Big Catch of (1+2+3+4+5+6+7+8+9+10+11+12+13+14+15+16+17=) 153 Great Fishes and Dragging and Landing the Catch on the Shore- finished November 4th, 2010.
JOHN 21**

The 'Revealer':

V1 'After these things' is a reference to Jesus' resurrection as recorded in **Chapter 20** and He showing himself alive, once to Mary Magdalene in the Garden, and twice to the disciples, **firstly** at evening on the First day of the week, when they were locked in the upper room for fear of the Jews, and **secondly**, eight days after, which would, if the day of the showing is counted as the first day, be the next Sunday, when He appeared to convince Thomas of his resurrection.

The experience of the disciples as recorded in this Chapter is the **third** time, **verse 14**, that Jesus '**showed himself again**' to them. The showing of the Saviour, Jesus to the disciples was to reveal his will in their life for theirs and the salvation of other Souls, His People. And the whole construct of the setting by the 'Sea of Tiberias', 'The Shore,' 'A Ship' with 7 Disciples, 'other Little Ship' of four Disciples, 'Go Fishing,' 'The Net' and 'dragging it,' 'The Catch' and the '153 Big Fishes,' 'the Fire of Coals with fish laid thereon and bread' are symbols for the analogies used to tell the account.

John 21 does not mention the number of days He was seen of the disciples but Luke in **Acts 1: 3**, state that He was seen of them for forty days leading to 'the not many days hence', **Day Fifty or Pentecost**, when they were baptized with the Holy Ghost and fire power. In the context of this, it seems that '**the not many days hence**' were about 2 or 3 days. And the forty days that he was seen of them started from this Miracle of the 153 Big Fishes caught in the Sea of Tiberias. At a later point I will piece together this 'forty days experiences' of the Disciples with their risen Lord.

Jesus is the '**Revealer or Revelator**' of secrets or knowledge, which is the function he fulfils in this Chapter. This theme is the one which John, the Writer of this Synoptic Gospel expands further in **Revelation**, the last book of the Oracle, giving a panoramic view in **Symbols and Signs (Apocalypse)** from before creation in Heaven, Creation, and right down to the end of the World, when Jesus returns and beyond, the New Heaven and Earth. We will look at this Book of Symbols at some point in the future.

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The other appellations that are developed progressively are: v8: 'Reapers,' v15: 'Shepherd,' or 'Pastor,' v22: 'Jesus as Lord, our example.'

The Two (Group of) Reapers:

Man and the Devine (Chair-Owner or Proprietor), Executives and Non Executives (Apostles), The First and the Last Reapers (including other workers) of the first and last Harvests (the Work or business of the Kingdom). The First Harvest being at Pentecost the Former Rain and the last being in our end of time at the Latter Rain.

V2 The duality of names; persons; and name and reference of origin; in this verse is to communicate the idea of a union of two: mankind and Devine, a marriage, the baptism by the Spirit. **It also paints the picture of the Golden Lamp Stand with its central or main branch: Simon Peter and its three double branches, the other 3 pairs of disciples.**

'They were together' meaning they were in 'one place and accord,' now, behold the beauty in the meaning of the names: 'Simon Peter:' Hearing Aid or stone, the Chief Executive Apostle or CEA, 'Thomas' meaning twin or twinned, otherwise called 'Didymus,' meaning: double; 'Nathaniel' of Cana in Galilee, interpreted as the two Gifts of God in the Creation and Redemption of the Heathen Circle or Earth; 'sons of Zebedee,' which are two: James and John according to **Mark 1: 19**, viz.: they are the builder of the family name of dowry (God's) which are two: the life of Jehovah Favoured, meaning of the name John, a reference to His Work of Creation (**see Acts 2**), before the fall and the Ministry of the Sup-planter (James from Hebrew Jacob), Esau's servant, a reference to redemption afforded by Christ Sacrifice, and the 'two other disciples.' These Seven were in the first ship, **v3**.

V8 The other disciples, which would be four (as Judas replacement was not ordained at this point), viz.: two pairs, came in a little ship (for they were not far from land as it were 200 hundred cubits) dragging the net with fishes.

Thus there were two ships or group of Reapers, **a big ship**, The Executives Apostles, **EAs.**, professionals in their field of speciality or function: 'fishers'. This means one of the two described as the 'two other disciples' could be 'Andrew,' Simon Peter's brother as they were fishers by profession.

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The Two (Group of) Reapers:

The **other disciples in the little ship** provided oversight and assistance to these, being the **Non Executives Apostles or NEAs**, these are the last workers to be engaged in the work of 'dragging'. Thus these are included in the two sets of workers as identified by Christ in the parable in **Matthew 20:1-12** calling them **'first and last.'** **These two, pairs, will minister to others, their peers.**

A cubit is 18 inches or one and half feet which means 200 cubits translates to '200 times 1 ½ feet' which is 300 feet or 100 yards. Therefore the distance from where the catch was made to the shore is likened unto a **'100 yards or metres'** sprint to the finish line.

V9 As soon as they came to land they saw a fire of coal and fish laid thereon and bread. This is the double portion meal: fish and bread, 'the grow and go' food for them engaged in the ministry, prepared by the Spirit (and Jesus), who provides the 'glow' as the Holy Anointing Oil upon their countenances. This meal also typifies or points to the Marriage Supper at the end of the Harvesting of Souls on Heaven's Shore.

The (Double Portion) Ministry of the Spirit:

V2 This is sustained by a double portion of the Spirit as typified by Elisha's Ministry who requested of Elijah for a double portion of His Spirit. The Spirit reveals the duality of Christ's will, role and function in the life and **names of His Servants: Simon Peter: Hearing Stone or Aid.** Hearing is the basis of faith: it comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God, **Romans 10:17.** The CE must have this discernment for direction or **'steering of the ship.'** Stone, on its own may be construed as that essential quality of character such as 'lively stones' that are built up a spiritual house (or the converse), **1 Peter 2:5.** Together as 'Hearing Stone or Aid' it is to facilitate the growth and development of His Church.

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The Double Portion Ministry of the Spirit:

Other Executives or OE are doubled or twinned, suggesting their union with the Spirit among other things as: 'Thomas,' meaning: twin, also called 'Didymus' meaning: double; 'Nathaniel of Cana in Galilee,' rendered: the two gifts of God in the Creation and Redemption of the Earth; 'Sons of Zebedee,' which are two, James and John, otherwise named Boanerges or Sons of Thunder by Jesus, **Mark 3: 17**, rendered as: power of the Two Witnesses to speak into being that which is uttered: if two of you on Earth shall agree on anything, it shall be done of my Father in Heaven, **Matthew 18:19**. And 'two other disciples,' bringing the total to: Seven as **the Seven Golden Candlesticks** with a central or main branch and then 3 double branches depicting the Spirit.

V9 As Elijah got a cruse of water and baked cake to make the journey to Horeb, **1King 19:6**, these eleven in the Ministry saw the double portion meal as soon as they landed: 'a fire of coals and fish laid thereon and bread.' This will provide the power to grow, go and glow. He shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you, **Acts 1:8**.

V16 The CE commitment is checked the second time for him to ponder and to be certain that his priorities are in order: 'And he asked him again the **second time** Simon, son of Jona, lovest thou me? And he said, unto him, Yea, Lord thou knowest I love thee.'

It behoves us who are **born** into the Kingdom to judge our current standing with the Saviour lest we become His enemies unawares: 'if we judge ourselves then will we not be judged,' **1 Corinthians 11:31**. Once, twice (and even up to three times), a two (or three) times witness will establish the matter.

V23 Then went this saying abroad among the brethren that that this disciple will not die, yet Jesus did not say that he will not die, but if I will that he tarry till I come what is that to thee?

What is the difference between these two: **death and tarry or live till the Second Coming** of our Lord and Saviour?

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The Double Portion Ministry of the Spirit:

Blessed are they that die in the Lord from henceforth, yea, say the Spirit that they may rest from their labour and their works do follow them, **Revelation 14:13**. John, the scribe for the Book of Revelation, in as much as He is the Scribe, it is considered as his work, a work that gives testimony even unto the Second Coming of Jesus and beyond, though he sleeps in death, yet this work do follow after him. This work, along with his Gospel writings engenders **faith** in Jesus, the Promised Messiah.

Jesus will come, the **Second Time!**

(The Mission of) the Born Again:

V3 Simon Peter said unto them, I go 'a fishing.' They say unto him, we go also with thee. They went forth and entered into a ship immediately, and that night they caught nothing.

This is the first ship, only the born again can enter the mission ship. Jesus said unto his disciples: follow me and I shall make you **fishers of man, Matthew 4:19**. The mission ship will gain no success fishing in the night: those of the dark resist and flee from the reason of the gospel. Therefore, **'zero or nothing'** of these will be in the **catch**.

V15 So, when they had dined, Jesus said unto Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jona, lovest (in a social or moral and wider sense more of the head) thou me more than these? He said, Yea, Lord thou knowest that I love (social sense as a brother or friend more of the heart) thee. And he said unto him, feed my lambs.

The commitment of the Chief Executive in terms of his devotion and love for the Saviour, the Chair Owner and Proprietor, must be greater than that which he is engaged in the world and its offering. This stance or approach will only yield success; his love will manifest in his obedience to 'bos'-ko' or feed, pasture, fodder or graze His lamb (as a male). A function he carries out as the under **Shepherd or Pastor**. Except the **'catch'** is fed it will result in all being lost resulting in nothing saved. And again those who are involved in fishing must first be **caught or hooked** on the love of the Saviour, in other words, they must **first be caught** to be involved in **the catch**.

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(The Mission of) the Born Again:

Simon Peter did not answer the question in relation to the world, he did instead, answered it absolutely, in other words there is no question of anything or anyone else as it relates to his heart love for the Saviour and his Friend.

V10 Jesus saith unto them bring of the fish which ye have now caught. **The catch** is only made possible in the **'light' or truth**, the basis by which the Spirit is able to work successfully. These are brought as 'bringing in the sheaves' unto the Heavenly Shore, and will be on display at the Feast of Tabernacles just after the later rain as they were on display at the Feast of Weeks, after the former rain, when three thousand souls were baptized on the Day of Pentecost, **Acts 2**.

V16 And he said the second time, Simon, son of Jona lovest (in a social or moral and wider sense more of the head and will) thou me, and he said, Yea, Lord thou knowest that I love (social sense as a brother or friend more of the heart) thee, and He said, pay-mahée-no, or tend as shepherd, supervisor or rule my sheep. It is a case of not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord, **Zechariah 4:6**. The love of the servant for His Master is critical for the proper nurture and care of the Lord's flock or stocks. This is the only way they will be able to drag, bring and land the 'catch' on the Heavenly Shore. It was Jesus who said, if you do what I say, then you are my friends, **John 15:14**. Also, His Shepherd does not bear authority over His flock, but rather those who are Chief shall be their Servants, **Luke 22: 25-26**.

V17 And he said unto him the third time Simon, son of Jona, lovest (social sense as a brother or friend more of the heart) thou me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, lovest (social sense as a brother or friend more of the heart) thou me? And he said unto him Lord thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love (social sense as a brother or friend more of the heart) thee. Jesus saith unto him pasture my sheep.

The love of the Saviour is so crucial that the question was asked three times for careful consideration of those engaged in Mission. We are to love the Lord our God with all our hearts, mind, strength and soul and our neighbours as ourselves, **Mark 12:30-31**. This is what will guarantee the success of the mission as we publish glad tidings of peace.

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The 'Catch':

V3 The mission as identified in this verse was the decision: 'go fishing,' go and preach the gospel to all nations baptizing them, **Mark 16:15**, the next condition was also fulfilled, they were together and agreed on the decision, viz.: in one place and accord: 'we also go with you,' if two of you shall agree on the earth as touching anything it shall be done of my Father in Heaven, **Mark 18:19**. The next condition is that they acted on the decision: 'they went forth into a ship immediately,' however, the other critical condition was not met, they must fish in the 'light' or truth, hence, they caught 'nothing' or 'zero'. Nothing equates with a 100% of zero of the children of darkness will be in the catch as God is Light and in Him there is no darkness at all, **1 John 1: 5**.

V10 Jesus saith unto them bring of that which ye have now caught. Only by the Spirit can the Catch be made, the words (truth) I speak are Spirit and they are life, **John 6: 63**, when these are spoken (the truth), my sheep hear my voice and they follow me, **John 10:27**.

V17 The three times witness of this verse is confirmation of the certainty that those who hears or obeys the Word of God as builders of the family name of the 'dove' viz.: as harmless as doves, **Matthew 10: 16**, those who love the Saviour with all their heart will feed or pasture his sheep. The Sheep is 'the Catch' and those engaged in their pasturing must first be caught or hooked on the love of the Saviour. Those who love are as doves doing no harm and 'The Catch' is the born again.

V24 This is that disciple that testifies of these things and wrote these things and we know that his testimony is true. The truth spoken will yield fruit among those whose hearts are fertile for its seed. These are they who have a good heart of faith.

Jesus as Lord:

V4 But when the morning was now come, Jesus stood on the shore but the disciples did not know it was Jesus.

V22 Jesus saith unto him, If, I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee? Follow thou me!

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Jesus as Lord:

The morning is the time of day break, the rise of the Day Star, the S-o-n of Righteousness shall arise with healing in His wings, **Malachi 4:2**. At morning, **Out** comes the S-o-n, Jesus stood in Heaven or on the 'Shore,' it is a time for action as described as 'at that time shall Michael stand up, the great Prince which stands for the children of thy people and their shall be.....and at that time shall thy people be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book, **Daniel 12: 1**.

As **Lord** he begins to act to bring to past His Sovereign will. To participate we must first make Him Lord of our lives and allow Him to lead us as He will. **Out** of the abundance of His Heart His mouth speaks what he wills for our lives, we must pay the keenest attention, not of another but on following Him. For if we follow on to know the Lord, then shall we know Him, whose going forth is as prepared as the Morning and He shall come unto us as the rain, latter and former rain unto the Earth, **Hosea 6: 3**. Notice what He speaks comes into being for by the words of the Lord were the Heavens made and the Host thereof by the breath of His Mouth, for He speaks and it is done, He commands and it stood fast, **Psalms 33: 9**.

V11 Simon Peter went up and drew the net to the land full of great fishes, a hundred and fifty and three: and for all they were so many, yet was not the net broken.

V23 Then went this saying abroad among the brethren that that disciple will not die, yet Jesus said not unto him: he will not die, but, if, I will that he should tarry till I come, what is that to thee?

While out 100 yards in the Sea of Tiberias what Simon Peter and the first ship of seven disciples could not do by themselves, we now find Simon Peter, having been clothed in his 'fisher's coat,' washed again, as he had plunged into the water, and now risen, closer to 'the Shore' or Heaven, went up, **out** of the water and drew the net, landing the catch on 'the shore' as Jesus had commanded. See the first fulfilment on the **Day of Pentecost** in **Acts 2**.

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Jesus as Lord:

The 153 Great fishes is the sum total of the arithmetic progression of the series of the Seventeen nations and people groups that were present at Jerusalem on the Day of Pentecost that heard the gospel, 'the net' cast or preached in their own languages and 3,000 souls were baptized or born of the water and the Spirit on that day.

Assign each of the numbers in the series from 1 to 17 to each nation and people group (1+2+3+4+5+6+7+8+9+10+11+12+13+14+15+16+17) found in **Acts 2: 8-11** and you will find that they sum to the total of 153. This means 100% of each nation and people group that ought to be saved will be saved and none lost as 'the net was not broken' but was able to bear them being dragged to the Heavenly Shore. The zero caught in the night represents the 100% of the children of the dark from all nations and people groups who will not be saved, hence, the arithmetic or geometric progression actual starts at zero (0).

The last 'catch' in the **latter rain** (at the end of time) is the last fulfilment, 100 yards out from the Heavenly Shore, it will be done quickly and in quick succession dragged or harvested and landed to the Shore so much so that none will be lost. Lord, given that Heaven will be at the door, are you saying according to that which went **out** 'abroad among the brethren' that none of these, including the reapers, will die but tarry till you come the second time?

V18 Verily, Verily, I say unto you when thou was young thou gird thyself and walkedst wither thou wouldest, but when thou shalt be old thou shall stretch forth thy hands and another shall gird thee, and carry thee whither thou wouldest not.

V24 This is the disciple which testifieth of these things and we know that his testimony is true.

Those 'Fishers' of the former rain experience have all passed on including John, the beloved, and Simon Peter was privy of the manner of his death before it happened. His will in his former, young years was to decide wither he went and he did, in his latter older years, he would submit, though at Jesus' death, he resisted, he would mature, saying: Lord thy will be done.

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Jesus as Lord:

This was Jesus' prophecy or testimony which came from the abundance of His heart **out** of his mouth, according to Simon's statement: 'Lord thou knowest all things!' John also gave testimony to all these things: Jesus is Lord, knowing all things.

V25 There are many other things that Jesus did which are not written, which if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written. Amen.

His Will, work or actions:

V4 The time for Jesus to reveal his Sovereign will is described as 'morning was come.' His posture or position at this time is: 'Jesus stood on the Shore,' one of standing. This means that he is ready to act to bring to past His will. The Morning ever typifies the S-o-n of Righteousness in all of His Glory and Power.

V11 The Spirit attends to His Words, 'bring of that which you have now caught,' v10. Simon Peter; went up out of the water and drew and landed the net with 153 fishes losing none.

V18 He knows our end from our beginning and can declare it before it comes to past, he revealed to Peter His will in his death.

V25 His actions are many so much so that the writer thinks or supposes that not even the world could contain all the books written of his works.

Join to God in Communion:

V5 Then Jesus said unto them: Children have ye any meat? And they answered him: No.

At day break, in the light of a new day, the 7 Disciples in the Ship on the **Sea (of glass)** were facing **Heaven's Shore**, which is eastward, where **Jesus stood**, for they had turned back to return. **Light was come** and Jesus began to commune with them as an **Elder Brother, Friend and Advocate**: Children have ye any meat? They answered: No.

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Join to God in Communion:

Thus was encapsulated the statement: If the people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from Heaven, and will forgive their sin and will heal their land, **2 Chronicles 7: 14.**

V12 And Jesus said unto them: come and dine. And none of the disciples, durst ask him: Who art thou? knowing that it was the Lord.

The Spirit makes Jesus' identity succinct to us when we are called to **his table** to dine. He will reveal other things as we commune with Him.

V19 This spake ye, signifying by what death he should glorify God. And when he had spoke this, he said unto him, Follow me.

The path in the Sanctuary is clearly identified as the path we take following the Lord as we live our lives to honour and glorify Him. This path also includes at times, a physical sacrifice, at the **altar of burnt offering** in the courtyard upon the earth. Peter was also shown by what death he would glorify and honour God in that he was obedient and did not fight back as he did when Jesus' accusers took Him and led Him to the cross of Calvary.

The Sealing and the Final Feast (Tabernacles):

V6 Jesus directs the **Fishers of Man, Preachers** from Heaven in the two Harvests, the first and last catch: And He said unto them, 'Cast the net:' preach the gospel to every kindred, tongue and people, **Mark 16:15**, 'on the right side of the ship:' facing the shore or Heaven, that is, eastward, the right side is southward, the strong side or the side of life, those on this side are those:

- 'whosoever believe and is baptized shall be saved,' **Mark 16:16.**
- Who seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness and all things were added unto them, **Matthew 6:33.**
- Who understand that it shall not profit them to gain the whole world and loose their soul, nor consider anything worthy of exchange for their soul salvation, **Mark 8: 36-37.**

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The Sealing and the Final Feast (Tabernacles):

- Who love the Lord with all their heart, mind, strength, soul, and their neighbour as themselves, **Matthew 22:37.**

and ye shall find. They cast therefore, and now they were not able 'to draw' it for the multitude of fishes. The multitude of fishes, were souls from every kindred, tongue and people that were numbered, and sealed for time and eternity, who accepted the gospel of the Kingdom of God and Jesus as Lord and Saviour and Messiah.

V13 After the sealing of these souls, the multitude from every kindred, tongue and people, in the Numbers Kingdom (fourth in Pentateuch), the sixth kingdom, whose prerogative is world dominion, that is what is left of Romano Kingdom, down in the feet of iron and of clay, weak and divided, 'Jesus cometh,' and convenes the marriage supper of the Lamb or the Feast of Tabernacle where he also plays the role of Host, he takes bread and give them and fish likewise. Notice that the bread and the fish are provided and prepared by Jesus and are not of the '**153 Great Fishes Catch.**' But these souls having landed on Heaven's Shore are also guests at the feast. At this meal we will partake of the eternal or permanent brooks of Heaven.

V20 Then Peter, turning about, seeth that disciple whom Jesus loved following, which also leaned on his breast at supper and said, Lord, which is he that betrayeth thee? At the last supper when the Holy Communion was instituted, the betrayal was also revealed, now at The Best Meal in Heaven, communion will only be among those who are called, chosen, and found faithful, no more betrayal, nor denial.

It is the Lord!

V7 Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved said unto Peter: '**It is the Lord.**' Now when Simon Peter heard: that it was the Lord; he girt on his fisher's coat (for he was naked) and did cast himself into the water.

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It is the Lord!

Only the Jehovah favoured or beloved, whom loves the Lord with all their hearts, minds, strength and soul will **see or know**, when Jesus by His Presence works, it follows that they will **say** or speak to others of this in their midst, anyone of these lacking or wanting will use that opportunity to make it right, washing and clothing themselves again. Therefore Jesus, **The Revealer**, **shows**, they **see** and they **say**. What will your response be?

V14 This is now **the third time** that **Jesus showed** himself to his disciples, after that **he was risen from the dead**.

The three times witness that Jesus had risen from the dead culminates in this verse, which certifies or validates His resurrection: **Jesus is alive?** Much the same way as the three times question and answer of Simon Peter love for his Saviour and friend. He promises and Lo! I am with you always even unto the end of the world, **Matthew 28: 20**. Therefore, similar manifestations in our time will be wrought by the Spirit anointed **Reapers**.

V21 Peter seeing him saith to Jesus, **Lord what will this man do?**

As born again we have been given the sacred task of Shepherding and Pastoring the Lord's flock, let us obey in love.