

The Disciples Discover He Has Risen

Preface

The Gospels were written by four men. Matthew and John were eye-witnesses of the events recorded. Matthew was a Jewish tax collector and Luke was a Gentile medical doctor. We know little of Mark's background except he received his information from Peter who was an eye-witness. Luke affirms that his knowledge of events was derived from men who had been eyewitnesses. John was a commercial fisherman and a beloved companion of the Lord Jesus from the very beginning. The four gospels have only minor differences; in the main they are all in agreement as to what took place during Christ's offering to Israel as their Messiah King. This doctrine will begin with Matthew and end with John detailing many of Christ's post-resurrection appearances.

Book of Matthew

Introduction

1. Matthew's account of the Resurrection includes fewer details than the accounts of Luke and John and vastly more than Mark.
2. To Matthew alone we are indebted for the report of the command to go and baptize in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Mat 28:19-20.

Mat 28:19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,
Mat 28:20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

3. The substantial agreement of the four narratives, coupled with a wide variety of details and viewpoints, demonstrates their truthfulness and yet their independence of one another.

Discovery of the Empty Tomb--Mat 28:1-8

Mat 28:1 After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James the less went to look at the tomb.

Mat 28:2 There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it.

Mat 28:3 His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow.

Mat 28:4 The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.

Mat 28:5 The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified.

Mat 28:6 He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay.

Mat 28:7 Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you."

Mat 28:8 So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples.

An Early Morning Visit

1. Mary Magdalene, the other Mary and certain other women came at the break of dawn on Sunday to do the anointing of Jesus's body.

2. As they approached, an earthquake occurred, and an angel rolled back the great stone from the entrance.

3. This was not the moment of resurrection, but was rather intended to reveal the empty tomb to the witnesses.

4. It seems that Mary Magdalene immediately left to notify Peter and therefore did not hear the subsequent angelic announcement, "He is risen and goeth before you into Galilee." (Mat 28:7)

4.1. The direction from the angel to Mary Magdalene to go into Galilee had been earlier announced by our Lord in Mat 26:32.

Mat 26:32 But after I have risen, I will go ahead of you into Galilee."

Appearance of Jesus

Mat 28:9 Suddenly Jesus met them. "Greetings," he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him.

Mat 28:10 Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

1. And behold, Jesus met them, i.e., the women minus Mary Magdalene.

1.1 The first clause in verse 9, "Suddenly Jesus met them" must be omitted on textual grounds.

2. Meanwhile, Mary Magdalene, having informed Peter and John of the empty tomb, followed them to the site; ergo, they became the first to see the risen Christ. (Mar 16:9)

Mar 16:9 When Jesus rose early on the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had driven seven demons.

3. In Galilee Jesus gave the disciples instructions.

Mat 28:16 Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go.

Mat 28:17 When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted.

Mat 28:18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

Mat 28:19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

Mat 28:20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Book of Mark

Mar 16:1 When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome the mother of James and John bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus' body.

Mar 16:2 Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb

Mar 16:3 and they asked each other, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?"

Mar 16:4 But when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away.

Mar 16:5 As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed.

Mar 16:6 "Don't be alarmed," he said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him.

Mar 16:7 But go, tell his disciples and Peter, 'He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.'"

Mar 16:8 Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.

Introduction

The Lord's Resurrection--Mar 16:1-20.

1. The last chapter of this Gospel falls into two clearly distinguished sections.

1.1 The visit of the three women to the tomb occupies Mar 16:1-8.

1.2 The remainder of the chapter, Mar 16:9-20, forms a summary of the resurrection appearances of Christ, concluding with his ascension. These verses do not appear in the better manuscripts and thus are not considered as inspired.

1.3 Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus had made arrangements for a new tomb. The ladies were aware of its location. The body had been placed in the new tomb.

Mar 15:46 So Joseph bought some linen cloth, took down the body, wrapped it in the linen, and placed it in a tomb cut out of rock. Then he rolled a stone against the entrance of the tomb.

Mar 15:47 Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James the less saw where he was laid.

Two Women Go Shopping

1. Since the Sabbath ended at sundown it appears that the three women mentioned in Mar 15:40 went to one of the shops that had just opened. It was there they purchased the desired materials.

Mar 15:40 Some women were watching the events *up to and including the crucifixion* from a distance. Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome.

2. The sweet spices (**Aromata**) were in a liquid form, such as perfumed oil, for the women planned to anoint the body of Jesus.

3. Mark states that the women arrived at sunrise. John says it was still dark at the time of their arrival.

Mar 16:2 Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb

3.1 The apparent conflict is easily resolved if we assume that the women began their journey while it was yet dark and arrived at the tomb just after the sun had risen.

4. When they looked is a translation from the Greek **Anablepo**, meaning "to look up." The women, not expecting to see anyone, and given the quasi-darkness they would have been looking down so as to not stumble or perhaps their heads were bowed as a sign of their special sorrow.

A Young Man Appears

5. Mark reports that the ladies saw a young man.

6. Matthew describes the person as an angel who had removed the stone. (Mat 28:2-4)

7. Luke says there were two men in dazzling clothes. (Luk 24:4)

Luk 24:4 While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them.

8. The differences provide evidence that these are the reports of several eyewitnesses, each of whom described what impressed the most.

9. Affrighted is more accurately translated as utterly amazed. One translator uses the word "dumbfounded."

10. Be not affrighted is better translated, "Stop being utterly amazed."

11. The angel assured them that Jesus had risen and was no longer in the immediate area.

12. Notice how Peter is singled out in Mar 16:7. This may have been so that the fallen disciple would know that Christ had not rejected him because of his three denials.

Mar 16:7 But go, tell his disciples and Peter, 'He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.'

13. A comparison of the other Gospels shows that the disciples did not leave at once for Galilee—they were astounded. The ladies seeing the angel and the empty tomb were stunned. It is no wonder they fled from the sepulcher to find Peter and the other disciples.

Mar 16:8 And they went out quickly, and fled from the sepulchre; for they trembled and were amazed: neither said they anything to any man; for they were afraid.

Luk 24:33 They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together

Luk 24:34 and saying, "It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon."

Luk 24:35 Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread.

Luk 24:36 While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."

14. The ladies seeing the angel and the empty tomb trembled and were amazed. Mark's original is much stronger. He says "... trembling and astonishment were gripping them." It is no wonder that they fled from the sepulcher.

15. The statement that they said nothing to any man must be understood in the light of the other Gospels. They said nothing to anyone along the way, for they were afraid and, in a hurry, to take the news to the disciples.

Luk 24:9 When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others.

Luk 24:10 It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna the wife of Chuza Herod's Steward, Mary the mother of James the Less, and the others with them who told this to the apostles.

Book of Luke

1. Luke is most loquacious recording more than fifty verses for us. Let's break Luke's account down into sections by subject:

2. The Burial of Jesus

Luk 23:50 Now there was a man named Joseph, a member of the Council, a good and upright man,

Luk 23:51 who had not consented to their decision and action. He came from the Judean town of Arimathea and he was waiting for the kingdom of God.

Luk 23:52 Going to Pilate, he asked for Jesus' body.

Luk 23:53 Then he took it down, wrapped it in linen cloth and placed it in a tomb cut in the rock, one in which no one had yet been laid.

Luk 23:54 It was Preparation Day, and the Sabbath was about to begin.

Luk 23:55 The women who had come with Jesus from Galilee followed Joseph and saw the tomb and how his body was laid in it.

Luk 23:56 Then they went home and prepared spices and perfumes. But they rested on the Sabbath in obedience to the commandment.

3. Three women arrive at the tomb with spices.

Luk 24:1 On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb.

Luk 24:2 They found the stone rolled away from the tomb,

Luk 24:3 but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.

Luk 24:4 While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them.

Luk 24:5 In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead?

Luk 24:6 He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee:

Luk 24:7 "The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, be crucified and on the third day be raised again."

Luk 24:8 Then they remembered his words.

4. The three women run to tell the disciples what they had seen but the disciples do not believe the ladies. Peter wants to see for himself so he rushes to the tomb.

4.1 This appearance of Jesus came after the women had reported the angel's message to the disciples. (Luk 24:9-12)

Luk 24:9 When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others.

Luk 24:10 It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna the wife of Chuza Herod's Steward, Mary the mother of James the Less, and the others with them who told this to the apostles.

Luk 24:11 But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense.

Luk 24:12 Peter, however, got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves, and he went away, wondering to himself what had happened.

Footnote: Verse 12 is not in the better manuscripts.

5. The Road to Emmaus

5.1 Two men are in a depressed state as they make their way to the village of Emmaus. They soon are joined by a "stranger" who turns out to be the resurrected Lord. One of the men on the road to Emmaus is named Cleopas.

Luk 24:13 Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem.

Luk 24:14 They were talking with each other about everything that had happened.

Luk 24:15 As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them;

Luk 24:16 but they were kept from recognizing him.

Luk 24:17 He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?" They stood still, their faces downcast.

Luk 24:18 One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Are you only a visitor to Jerusalem and do not know the things that have happened there in these days?"

Luk 24:19 "What things?" he asked. "About Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people.

Luk 24:20 The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him;

Luk 24:21 but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place.

Luk 24:22 In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning

Luk 24:23 but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive.

Luk 24:24 Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see."

6. Jesus reveals himself to Cleopas and Cleopas's friend.

Luk 24:25 He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken!

Luk 24:26 Did not the Christ have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?"

Luk 24:27 And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

Luk 24:28 As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus acted as if he were going farther.

Luk 24:29 But they urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So, he went in to stay with them.

Luk 24:30 When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them.

Luk 24:31 Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight.

Luk 24:32 They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"

7. The two men rush to Jerusalem to tell the disciples that the Messiah is alive. The disciples already know what Cleopas and his friend report. It is while the astounded group of followers that Jesus arrived displaying his wounds. Jesus also asks for a bite to eat.

Luk 24:33 They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together

Luk 24:34 and saying, "It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon."

Luk 24:35 Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread.

Luk 24:36 While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."

Luk 24:37 They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost.

Luk 24:38 He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds?"

Luk 24:39 Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have."

Luk 24:40 When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet.

Luk 24:41 And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?"

Luk 24:42 They gave him a piece of broiled fish,

Luk 24:43 and he took it and ate it in their presence.

Luk 24:44 He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."

Luk 24:45 Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures.

8. Over a few fish sticks Jesus elects to teach the disciples.

Luk 24:46 He told them, "This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day,

Luk 24:47 and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

Luk 24:48 You are witnesses of these things.

Luk 24:49 I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

9. The Lord leads his disciples outside the city of Bethany where he blesses them and then ascends into heaven.

Luk 24:50 When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them.

Luk 24:51 While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven.

Luk 24:52 Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy.

Luk 24:53 And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.

Summary

1. Luke says the women beheld the sepulcher.

1.1 The women witnessed the burial and noted how the body was laid.

1.2 They could not have been mistaken later about the location of the tomb nor about the reality of the burial.

1.3 They had earlier prepared spices and ointments. Spices and unguents of various kinds were used to preserve the body, and were also a tribute of love and of respect to the dead.

2. Luke's account of the Resurrection differs from the other narratives in content, though it agrees with them in the essential facts.

3. Each of the Gospel writers mentions the visit of the women to the tomb; but the appearance of the Lord to the disciples on the road to Emmaus is reported only by Luke.

4. Luke records three main episodes of the Resurrection: the announcement to the women, the walk to Emmaus, and the appearance in the upper room. He concludes the Gospel with the ascension from Bethany.

5. As earlier noted, Luke begins by stating the ladies came on the first day of the week, very early in the morning. Luk 24:1-12

5.1 Mark seems to imply (Mar 16:1-2) that the women finished the purchase of spices on the preceding evening, and came to the tomb at an hour when they would not be disturbed by others.

6. The ladies found the stone rolled away from the sepulcher. The tomb was a cave cut into the solid rock; a stone was placed across the entrance to keep out intruders. The women were surprised to find the tomb open.

7. They were further surprised when they could not find the Lord's body.

7.1 They knew exactly where to look for it, but it had vanished.

7.2 All the Gospel accounts agree that the tomb was empty on the morning of the first day.

8. They were much perplexed. The women had no inkling of what had happened. Obviously, there was no plot on the part of the disciples to remove the body (as the Jewish leaders later charged) or these women would have had some hint of it.

8.1 Perhaps they thought that Joseph and his assistants had moved the body to a safer place. Luke indicates (Luk 24:4) two men stood by them. Matthew (28:2-6) and Mark (16:5) say that an angel within the tomb gave them the news that Jesus had risen.

8.2 There is no essential conflict; one may have been the spokesman for both.

9. Jesus had given his disciples explicit instructions about the necessity of his coming death. (Luk 18:31-34)

Luk 18:31 Jesus took the Twelve aside and told them, "We are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written by the prophets about the Son of Man will be fulfilled. Luk 18:32 He will be handed over to the Gentiles. They will mock him, insult him, spit on him, flog him and kill him.

Luk 18:33 On the third day he will rise again."

Luk 18:34 The disciples did not understand any of this. Its meaning was hidden from them, and they did not know what he was talking about.

10. After the events of the cross and the ascension many remembered his words.

11. The ladies were said to have told all these things to the eleven and all the others.

Luk 24:9 When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others.

12. Jesus had with him in Jerusalem a larger group of followers than just the eleven disciples. Joseph of Arimathea, Nicodemus, the women, and many others were most likely included in the group designated by Luke as "all the others."

13. Luke indicates the disciples first considered the report of the ladies as "nonsense."

14. The Greek word **Leros** translated nonsense in the NIV simply indicates the disciples were not ready to believe the first story they heard, but began a critical investigation. Luke 24:11

Luk 24:11 But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense.

15. Peter listened to the report of the ladies and ran to the tomb.

16. The entire twelfth verse does not appear in the best manuscripts of Luke.

16.1 The linen clothes were wide bandage-like strips that were wound around the body. They apparently laid by themselves. There was no body in them, but they kept the same position they had when the Lord's body was there.

17. Luke concludes his Gospel with an account of the events of the two disciples on the road to Emmaus, His appearance to the disciples where he showed them His hands and His feet and lastly Luke records the Lord's ascension at Bethany.

Book of John

1. John, like Luke is verbose taking more than fifty verses to describe the post resurrection activities of Christ and His disciples. Let's dissect John's fifty verse discourse.

2. Mary Magdalene opens the discourse.

Joh 20:1 Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance.

Joh 20:2 So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!"

3. Peter and John run a race to the tomb where they confirm Mary's story.

Joh 20:3 So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb.

Joh 20:4 Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first.

Joh 20:5 He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in.

Joh 20:6 Then Simon Peter, who was behind him, arrived and went into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there,

Joh 20:7 as well as the burial cloth that had been around Jesus' head. The cloth was folded up by itself, separate from the linen.

Joh 20:8 Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed.

3. The resurrected Christ was not confined by natural barriers. (Joh 20:19, 26)

Joh 20:19 On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, **with the doors locked** for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!"

Joh 20:26 A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though **the doors were locked**, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!"

4. Neither John nor Peter understood the meaning of these events.

Joh 20:9 (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.)

5. Mary speaks to two angels and then meets Jesus.

Joh 20:10 Then the disciples went back to their homes,

Joh 20:11 but Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb

Joh 20:12 and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot.

Joh 20:13 They asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?" "They have taken my Lord away," she said, "and I don't know where they have put him."

Joh 20:14 At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus.

Joh 20:15 "Woman," he said, "why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?"

Thinking he was the gardener, she said, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him."

Joh 20:16 Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher).

Joh 20:17 Jesus said, "Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet returned to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, 'I am returning to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'"

Joh 20:18 Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: "I have seen the Lord!" And she told them that he had said these things to her.

6. The disciples huddle together and in walks Jesus. He shows them his hands and side and then proves Himself to Thomas.

Joh 20:19 On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!"

Joh 20:20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

Joh 20:21 Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."

Joh 20:22 And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

Joh 20:23 If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

Joh 20:24 Now Thomas (called Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came.

Joh 20:25 So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it."

Joh 20:26 A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!"

Joh 20:27 Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe."

Joh 20:28 Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

Joh 20:29 Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

7. Jesus then did many other miracles in the presence of the disciples.

Joh 20:30 Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book.

Joh 20:31 But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

Why Are You Fishing for Fish and Not Men?

8. Simon Peter, Thomas, Nathaniel, James and John decide that they need to return to their fishing business.

Joh 21:1 Afterward Jesus appeared again to his disciples, by the Sea of Tiberias. It happened this way:

Joh 21:2 Simon Peter, Thomas (called Didymus), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together.

Joh 21:3 "I'm going out to fish," Simon Peter told them, and they said, "We'll go with you." So, they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

Joh 21:4 Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus.

Joh 21:5 He called out to them, "Friends, haven't you any fish?" "No," they answered.

Joh 21:6 He said, "Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some."

When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish.

Joh 21:7 Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, "It is the Lord," he wrapped his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water.

Joh 21:8 The other disciples followed in the boat, towing the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about a hundred yards.

9. After a day of fishing the disciples return to the shore where they find Jesus preparing a meal for the disciples.

Joh 21:9 When they landed, they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it, and some bread.

Joh 21:10 Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish you have just caught."

Joh 21:11 Simon Peter climbed aboard and dragged the net ashore. It was full of large fish, one hundred and fifty-three, but even with so many the net was not torn.

Joh 21:12 Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." None of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord.

Joh 21:13 Jesus came, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish.

Joh 21:14 This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead.

10. After eating Jesus asks several questions of Peter. The questions it would seem are designed to motivate Peter and the other disciples to become fishers of men not fish.

Joh 21:15 When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you truly love me more than these?" "Yes, Lord," he said, "you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my lambs."

Joh 21:16 Again Jesus said, "Simon son of John, do you truly love me?" He answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Take care of my sheep."

Joh 21:17 The third time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my sheep."

Joh 21:18 I tell you the truth, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go."

Joh 21:19 Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, "Follow me!"

Joh 21:20 Peter turned and saw that the disciple whom Jesus loved was following them. (This was the one who had leaned back against Jesus at the supper and had said, "Lord, who is going to betray you?")

Joh 21:21 When Peter saw him, he asked, "Lord, what about him?"

Joh 21:22 Jesus answered, "If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you? You must follow me."

Joh 21:23 Because of this, the rumor spread among the brothers that this disciple would not die. But Jesus did not say that he would not die; he only said, "If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you."

The Purpose of John's Gospel

Life Through His Name

Joh 20:30 And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book:

Joh 20:31 But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.

1. The signs which dot the narrative of John have climaxed in the greatest of them all, the Resurrection.

2. Lest the reader think otherwise, the writer hastens to note that the signs were many. Only a select few are included in this book of John.

3. In addition to the Gospel descriptions we have a record in 1st Corinthians of a post resurrection appearance to more than five hundred at the same time.

1Co 15:3 For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,

1Co 15:4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,

1Co 15:5 and that he appeared to Peter, and then to the Twelve.

1Co 15: 6 After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep.

4. It is my expectation that this lesson will enable the reader to believe that Jesus is the Christ... and the Son of God.

5. Let us pray.

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