

Worship on the Waterfront

John 21:1-17

04/26/2020

John closes his resurrection account with an extended narrative and then 2 final pieces of information.

I. The Narrative

A. 7 in the boat (1-3)

1. God's plan for Peter did not include returning to commercial fishing
2. God's plan for Peter may or may not be instruction for you and me (John Phillips story)

B. 1 on the shore (4-5)

C. 153 in the net (6-11)

1. The number of languages in the world at that time
2. The number of races and tribes in the world at that time
3. The number of different kinds of fish in the Sea of Galilee
4. The symbolic meaning of adding ten and seven
5. Cyril stated that 100 stood for Gentiles and 50 stood for Jews and 3 for the Trinity
6. Augustine asserted that this number refers to the Ten Commandments and the seven gifts of the Spirit, which equals the number seventy.
7. If you add up each number 1, 2, 3, 4 through 17 you get 153...the total number who came to Christ through the law and grace

D. at the fire (12-14)

E. 2 on the beach (15-17)

1. Did Peter think he really loved Jesus more than the other disciples?
2. Did Peter think he was more committed than the other disciples?
3. Did Peter think he was more courageous than the other disciples?
4. Did Peter think his ministry was over because Jesus was leaving?
 - a. There were lambs to feed
 - b. There were sheep to tend
 - c. There were sheep to feed

II. The information

- A. The author saw everything he wrote
- B. What he wrote is not all that he saw

So What?

“Worship is our active, all of life response to the worth of who God is and what he does.”

I am convinced a whole lot of worship took place on the waterfront that morning, and I learn six important lessons about worship from this narrative.

- I worship best remembering Jesus is always with me.
- I worship best remembering how often I fail Him. (3)
- I worship best remembering I'm not better than you. (15)
- I worship best remembering who Jesus really is. (12)
- I worship best comparing myself to Him not to you. (21)
- I worship best serving Him through serving others. (15,16,17)