

Daily Devotional, March 30, 2020

“Come And Eat Breakfast” (John 21:12, NKJV)

“After these things Jesus showed Himself again to the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias, and in this way He showed Himself: Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of His disciples were together. Simon Peter said to them, “I am going fishing.” They said to him, “We are going with you also.” They went out and immediately got into the boat, and that night they caught nothing. But when the morning had now come, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Then Jesus said to them, “Children, have you any food?” They answered Him, “No.” And He said to them, “Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some.” So they cast, and now they were not able to draw it in because of the multitude of fish. Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” Now when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment (for he had removed it), and plunged into the sea. But the other disciples came in the little boat (for they were not far from land, but about two hundred cubits), dragging the net with fish. Then, as soon as they had come to land, they saw a fire of coals there, and fish laid on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish which you have just caught.” Simon Peter went up and dragged the net to land, full of large fish, one hundred and fifty-three; and although there were so many, the net was not broken. Jesus said to them, “Come and eat breakfast.” Yet none of the disciples dared ask Him, “Who are You?”—knowing that it was the Lord. Jesus then came and took the bread and gave it to them, and likewise the fish. This is now the third time Jesus showed Himself to His disciples after He was raised from the dead” (John 21:1-14).

This was one of eleven recorded post-resurrection, pre-ascension appearances of Jesus. The disciples had gone back to their secular employment, fishing. Because the fish would be closer to the surface at night when the sun was down, they would generally fish at night. On this particular night, they caught nothing. When morning came, Jesus appeared to His disciples and called out to them, instructing them to cast their net one more time. The disciples promptly obeyed and brought in a large catch of fish. Notice that the disciples actually counted the fish—153 of them! It got me to thinking. In times of trial such as these, are we living in the night, focusing on vain catches of nothing, worldly things, paralyzed by fear of getting Covid-19 to the point that our anxiety is much greater than our faith? Or are we counting all of our blessings

from God, all 153 of them? Surely if we set our minds to it, we can find 153 things to be thankful for. If we have health, if we can walk, if we can see, if we are able to work, if we have a spouse, beautiful children, if we have a relationship with God through Jesus Christ by trusting in his shed blood and resurrection for our eternal hope, all of these things are to be counted. The Lord is here today, and just as He fervently desired to eat the Passover (the Last Supper) with His disciples, and came to them as they were going about their daily activities by the sea that day, so He calls out to you today, reaching out His nail pierced hand of love, fellowship, and peace, saying, “*Come and eat breakfast.*”