

ALIVE: YOU FOLLOW ME!

John 21:18-25

John 21:15: So when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love (agape) Me more than these?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love (phileo) You." He said to him, "Feed My lambs."

John 21:16: He said to him again a second time, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love (agape) Me?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know I love (phileo) You." He said to him, "Tend My sheep."

John 21:17: He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love (phileo) Me?" Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, "Do you love Me?" And he said to Him, "Lord, You know all things; You know that I love (phileo) You. Jesus said to him, "Feed My sheep." ["feed" occurs twice]

John 21:18: Most assuredly, I say to you, when you were younger, you girded yourself and walked where you wished; but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will gird you and carry you where you do not wish.

Peter's death occurred around 67 A.D.

Peter did love Jesus with an agape love - total commitment!

John 21:19: This He spoke, signifying by what death he would glorify God. And when He had spoken this, He said to him, "Follow Me."

Matthew 4:19: Follow Me and I will make you fishers of men.

Restoration (to ministry) involved two responses:

- Love Me
- Follow Me

Peter would die for Jesus as a martyr. What changed for Peter from Denier to Martyr?

Acts 1:8: But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.

John 21:20-21: Then Peter, turning around, saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following, who also had leaned on His breast at the supper, and said, "Lord, who is the one who betrays You?" Peter, seeing him, said to Jesus, "But Lord, what about this man?"

John 21:22: Jesus said to him, "If I will that he remain till I come, what is that to you? You follow Me." (2x)

Jesus is coming again! He wants His church living like He is coming (John 14).

- Priorities
- Purity
- Urgency

What is that to you? You follow Me! (Don't get your eyes on other people!)

Hebrews 12:1-3: Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, fixing your eyes on Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith...For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls.

John 21:23: Then this saying went out among the brethren that this disciple would not die. Yet Jesus did not say to him that he would not die, but, "If I will that he remain till I come, what is that to you?"

It was important for John to clarify that Jesus was making a hypothetical statement, so the gospel wouldn't lose credibility after his death.

John 21:24: This is the disciple who testifies of these things, and wrote these things; and we know that his testimony is true.

1 John 1:1-4 - These things are written that your joy might be full!

John 21:25: And there are also many other things that Jesus did, which if they were written one by one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that would be written. Amen.

John was selective (exhaustive) in what he wrote.

John 20:30-31: And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.

Luke 1