

PUT AWAY YOUR **SWORD**

and

GRAB YOUR NET



— PART SIX —

PETER TO PENTECOST

FILLED. EMPOWERED. SENT.

Put Away Your Sword & Grab Your Net

Part 6 - Peter to Pentecost

Congregational Reading

Acts 2:1-21 (NKJV)

1 When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. 2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

5 And there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men, from every nation under heaven. 6 And when this sound occurred, the multitude came together, and were confused, because everyone heard them speak in his own language. 7 Then they were all amazed and marveled, saying to one another, "Look, are not all these who speak Galileans? 8 And how is it that we hear, each in our own language in which we were born? 9 Parthians and Medes and Elamites, those dwelling in Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya adjoining Cyrene, visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, 11 Cretans and Arabs—we hear them speaking in our own tongues the wonderful works of God." 12 So they were all amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "Whatever could this mean?"

13 Others mocking said, "They are full of new wine."

Peter's Sermon

(Joel 2:28-32)

14 But Peter, standing up with the eleven, raised his voice and said to them, "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and heed my words. 15 For these are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. 16 But this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:

17 'And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God,
That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh;
Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
Your young men shall see visions,
Your old men shall dream dreams.

18 And on My menservants and on My maidservants
I will pour out My Spirit in those days;
And they shall prophesy.

19 I will show wonders in heaven above
And signs in the earth beneath:
Blood and fire and vapor of smoke.

20 The sun shall be turned into darkness,
And the moon into blood,
Before the coming of the great and awesome day of the LORD.

21 And it shall come to pass
That whoever calls on the name of the LORD
Shall be saved.'

Introduction

I believe the Lord wanted us looking very closely at Peter's journey because as we can see, a lot can happen in just 3 years. Peter went from being a proficient fisherman to being powerful and peculiar preacher—a fisher of men! What a journey Peter was on? From venturing off the shores of what he knew into the deep with Jesus; to climaxing arrest of Jesus where he grabbed his sword instead of his net.

- **In Part 1** we saw how his sword replaced his net
- In Part 2 we discussed how Jesus stretched Peter's natural and spiritual nets
- **In Part 3** we explored the proper place for Peter's sword
- In Part 4 we talked about the need for the net to persist
- Last week in Part 5 we discussed the distance between Peter and Jesus when Peter's expectations didn't line up with his faith and he went into denial and seclusion. And how Jesus restored him through love
 - not courage
 - not condemnation and guilt
 - not force or obligation
 - love which led to devotion and commitment to what was being asked of him.
 - ◆ simply to "feed my lambs"

Simon Peter - Two Natures in One Man's Journey

It is striking to me that the person we know as Peter, was first known as Simon Bar-Jonah and later given the name Peter by Jesus. He is commonly referred to as Simon Peter because both names have a history and reputation attached to them:

Simon

Represents:

- the old nature
- instability
- impulsiveness
- emotional reactions
- humanity

- fear
- inconsistency

Simon

- grabs sword
- follows at distance
- denies Jesus
- hides in shame
- returns to fishing

Peter / Cephas ("Rock")

Represents:

- found his identity in Christ
- received his formation in Christ
- stability
- leadership
- revelation
- future calling
- what grace was building

Peter

- walks on water
- confesses Christ
- preaches at Pentecost
- Feeds sheep
- leads the Church

Simon Peter's identity was sealed behind and became unlocked once he understood Jesus is. And He didn't come to this understanding by himself. The Father revealed His Only Begotten Son as the Christ to Peter.

Matthew 16:13-19 (NKJV)

13 When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, "Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?"

14 So they said, "Some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets."

15 He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?"

16 Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

17 Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. 18 And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. 19 And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

- If Jesus truly is my Redeemer and my transformation then that means the way I've defined myself doesn't have power in me anymore.
- When you know Who Jesus really is, it's because He's revealed it to you
- As He reveals Himself to you, He begins to reveal who He's created and called you to be
- He reveals your purpose and the power He places within you.
- Your failures aren't your name any longer—your purpose is your name

Some of us haven't met our "purpose name" yet

- you still go by the name that people associate with your past
 - the doubter

- the skeptic
- the mess up
- the liar
- the indecisive one
- the angry one
- the injured one
- the black sheep

Jesus wants to introduce you to your purpose name!

- the believer
- the servant
- the faithful
- the truth giver
- the who carries joy
- the peacemaker
- the one who got healed
- the who's easy to forgive others

Simon's Retirement & Peter's Promotion

- We now see a restored Peter
- We now see a matured Peter
- We now see a Peter who's not held captive by his past
- We now see a Peter who knows how to pray
 - he knows that he is received when he prays
 - he knows not to doubt a God who he's seen do the impossible
 - he knows how to put his emotions in check and surrender to the Holy Spirit
- This Peter is bold!
 - not in his brashness but in his calling
 - not in any education but in his relationship with Jesus
- This Peter won't mistake who is to get glory in spiritual moments
 - he gives glory squarely to God
- This Peter has been opened up with revelation
- This Peter has been studying
- This Peter is embracing his call to be a "fisher of men!"

And on this day! Stripped of his past and his guilt and his shame, and being filled with the Power of God through prayer and dedication of himself received a different speech and a different Spirit!

And this "fisher of men" caught his biggest catch ever!

- As the Holy Ghost caught a hold of Peter
- He preached a prolific and power packed sermon and 3000 souls came to Jesus and the Church was birthed
- He used a net and not his sword
 - and yet the Sword of the Spirit did it's work of cutting through to the soul and spirit of those who heard him speak.
 - there was conviction but also invitation

Close

To be filled with the Spirit of God is to recognize that His Presence dwells in

- vessels He chooses to make Holy
- vessels He chooses to redeem

- vessels He chooses to fill and empower
- vessels He calls out of darkness into light
- Hardly praying Simon became Peter who prayed, preached and prophesied.
- Cussin Peter because Christ-centered and consecrated to The Lord.

These were not man made standards imposed on Him, it was a transformation and calling given to him. And if God had a transformation and calling for Simon, He has one for you!

Pentecost Sunday is about the promise of power being fulfilled through prayer and waiting on the Lord. For us it is for us to experience daily. It's the recognition that we live a life in God's Presence, power and purpose upon our lives. Pentecost was the occasion that the Holy Spirit used when He couldn't enough people praying together and enough people gathered together to manifest His Power! What could God release amongst us if He found enough of us praying, and seeking Him?

That we seek to be filled with Him everyday to retire our Simon's and walk in our Peter purpose—by His Power! To receive the Baptism of the Holy Ghost and experience His overflowing in our innermost being.

Are you ready for the Spirit of God to fill you and for a "new you" to emerge under the power of the Holy Spirit?