

A Pivotal Shift Is Occurring!

May 3, 2026

Scripture: John 21:9-17, *Amplified Bible (AMP)*

Supporting Scripture: Luke 24:36-49

Part 1: “Jesus Provides”

Context: The central thesis of the Gospel of John reached its apex when Thomas confessed, “My Lord and my God!” (see 20:28). Out of that statement, John summarized the purpose: first that people might believe in the deity of Christ, and second, that they might experience eternal life (see 20:31).¹ After these things, Jesus showed Himself for the third post-resurrection appearance of Christ to the disciples as a group, so that they gain important insight into His nature and mission for them (see John 21:1-3).

Last week, when we looked at Thomas’ encounter with Jesus, we asked, “How would you respond?” Today, as we look at Peter’s encounter with Jesus, we ask again, “How would you respond?”

When we meet the disciples in chapter 21, they are returning from a night of fishing, where they encounter Jesus on the shore. Jesus prepares a meal for the disciples. Lea and Black comment that “by preparing the food for the disciples, Jesus showed that He was continuing to serve them even as He had done earlier in washing their feet (see John 13:4-17); and by eating food, Jesus reassured the disciples of the reality of His resurrection.”²

Beloved, as we move forward toward Pentecost, every encounter with Jesus brings a pivotal shift—one that reveals the love of a Savior who provides, prepares, forgives, and restores. **TGBTG!**

Word of Hope: Restoration

What can separate us from God’s love? (see Romans 8:38-39). Jesus meets us in our moments of doubt and failure, graciously restoring us to fulfill His purpose. **TGBTG!**

¹ Elmer Towns. *The Gospel of John: Believe and Live*. (TN: AMG Publishers, 2002), 211.

Content: John 21:9-17 (AMP)

Reframing Reducible Experiences

So when they got out on the beach, they saw a charcoal fire set up and fish on it cooking, and bread.

Cultivating An Ongoing Awareness To

¹⁰ Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish which you have just caught.” ¹¹ So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net to land, full of large fish, a hundred and fifty-three [of them]; and although there were so many, the net was not torn.

Turn Our Attention To

¹² Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” None of the disciples dared to ask Him, “Who are You?” They knew [without any doubt] that it was the Lord.

The Spiritual Mana

¹³ Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and likewise the fish.

Progressive Prompting

¹⁴ This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples, after He had risen from the dead. ¹⁵ So when they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon, *son* of John, do you love Me more than these [others do—with total commitment and devotion]?” He said to Him, “Yes, Lord; You know that I love You [with a deep, personal affection, as for a close friend].” Jesus said to him, “Feed My lambs.”

Affirming a desirable behavior

¹⁶ Again He said to him a second time, “Simon, *son* of John, do you love Me [with total commitment and devotion]?” He said to Him, “Yes, Lord; You know that I love You [with a deep, personal affection, as for a close friend].” Jesus said to him, “Shepherd My sheep.” ¹⁷ He said to him the third time, “Simon, *son* of John, do you love Me [with a deep, personal affection for Me, as for a close friend]?” Peter was grieved that He asked him the third time, “Do you [really] love Me [with a deep, personal affection, as for a close friend]?”

What Appears As Loss Becomes Gain

And he said to Him, “Lord, You know everything; You know that I love You [with a deep, personal affection, as for a close friend].” Jesus said to him, “Feed My sheep.

² Thomas D. Lea and David Alan Black. *The New Testament: Its Background and Message*. (TN: B&H Publishers, 2003), 273.