John Lesson 51

Robert Harkrider · John 21:1–19 · Series: **John**

INTRODUCTION

- The Catholic Church claims to be the one true church because it says that its present Pope is a successor to Peter.
- Are they properly using the scripture? Let us let the Bible speak.

1 The Proof of the Empty Tomb

John 20:1–10

- Whether or not Jesus was raised from the grave is essential to our faith.
- Even if Jesus had just fainted on the cross and had been revived, he could not have removed that huge stone.
- All they would have had to have done to put an end to that would have been to have produced the body of Christ, but the enemies never produced his body.

2 Many Infallible Proofs: Jesus Showed Himself Alive

1 Corinthians 15:5–8; John 20:24–29; John 1:1–3

- Many times, many infallible, undeniable proofs. Jesus Christ showed himself alive.
- Reach hither thy finger and behold my hands, and reach hither thy hand and thrust it into my side and be not faithless but believe.
- The book of John began with the declaration that he was with God, that he was God. And then it concludes with the exclamation of Thomas, my Lord and my God.

3 The Third Time Jesus Showed Himself

John 21:1–14; Luke 5; Luke 24:36–43

- This is now the third time that Jesus showed himself to his disciples, after that he was risen from the dead.
- They were something like a 153 large fish. And another astounding fact was that it didn't break the net.
- The significant verse in this is that none needed to ask, was it Jesus? They knew that it was.
- The scriptures clearly describe Jesus as being in his body, the same body that was crucified, and a body that hungered and did eat.

4 Lovest Thou Me?

John 21:15–19; Romans 5:8; Mark 14

- Simon Peter is asked three times, Lovest thou me and three times he affirms, Yea, Lord, thou knowest that I love thee.

- It reminds us perhaps first of all that it was Peter who had denied the Lord three times on the night that he was arrested.
- This word Agapao is a strong, it's the higher form of love. It is the same word that describes the kind of love that God had for us.
- The word phileo is a kind of love that is more the emotional aspect of love. And it's more a responsive kind of love.
- Peter, even though you've denied me before, and though Peter you may have thoughts in the future, yet you have work to do.

5 Feed My Sheep: Was Peter a Pope?

1 Peter 5:1–3; Acts 20:28

- You have a commission as an apostle to tend to or to feed, to pastor, to be the shepherd of both the young and the old.
- This book was written about thirty years after the death of Peter. And yet John says nothing in this text about Peter being a pope.
- It no more makes elders popes when they are exhorted to feed the flock of God than it made Peter a pope.
- Peter never claimed to be the Pope, nor is there any successor ever named after him in the New Testament. That's tradition, that's claims of men.

6 Christ Is Head Over All Things of the Church

Matthew 28:18–20

- All power or all authority is given unto me in heaven and in earth.
- God hath put all things under his feet and gave him to be the head over all things of the church, which is his body.
- The only place to know what is the will of Christ is to be found in the inspired word of God, the New Testament.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Jesus the Christ is the one in whom is salvation. Are you following him?**

MY NOTES