

Bringing Glory to God through your life!

John 21:15 So **when they had dined**, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, *son* of Jonas, **lovest thou me more than these?** He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; **thou knowest that I love thee.** He saith unto him, **Feed my lambs.** 16 He saith to him again the second time, Simon, *son* of Jonas, **lovest thou me?** He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; **thou knowest that I love thee.** He saith unto him, **Feed my sheep.** 17 He saith unto him the third time, Simon, *son* of Jonas, **lovest thou me? Peter was grieved** because he said unto him **the third time**, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, **thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee.** Jesus saith unto him, **Feed my sheep.** 18 Verily, verily, I say unto thee, When thou wast young, thou girdedst thyself, and walkedst whither thou wouldst: but when thou shalt be old, **thou shalt stretch forth thy hands**, and another shall gird thee, and carry *thee* whither thou wouldst not. 19 This spake he, signifying **by what death he should glorify God.** And when he had spoken this, he saith unto him, **Follow me.** 20 Then Peter,

turning about, seeth the disciple whom Jesus loved following; which also leaned on his breast at supper, and said, Lord, which is he that betrayeth thee? **21** Peter seeing him saith to Jesus, Lord, and **what shall this man do?** **22** Jesus saith unto him, **If I will that he tarry till I come,** what *is that* to thee? **follow thou me.** **23** Then went this saying abroad among the brethren, that **that disciple should not die:** yet Jesus said not unto him, He shall not die; but, If I will that he tarry till I come, **what is that to thee?**

24 This is the disciple which testifieth of these things, and wrote these things: and **we know that his testimony is true.** **25** And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even **the world itself could not contain the books** that should be written. Amen.

- John wants you to know that he has been an eye witness and these things are true
- He wants you to know that Jesus did a lot more than he has put in this book and the facts are that it would be impossible to get it all written down

- For those who wonder how we know who the disciple in this book is check out the following. John is the other disciple, he is the one that Jesus loved **20** Then Peter, turning about, seeth the disciple whom Jesus loved following; which also leaned on his breast at supper, and said, Lord, which is he that betrayeth thee?
 - It wasn't Peter because he is the one asking
 - It wasn't James because he dies too soon
 - It surely was one of the inner circle, Peter, James, and John and so by elimination it would be John

1. Loving Jesus more than anything else **15** So **when they had dined**, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, *son* of Jonas, **lovest thou me more than these?** He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; **thou knowest that I love thee.** He saith unto him, **Feed my lambs.** **16** He saith to him again the second time, Simon, *son* of Jonas, **lovest thou me?** He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; **thou knowest that I love thee.** He saith unto him, **Feed my sheep.** **17** He saith unto him the third time, Simon, *son* of Jonas, **lovest thou me? Peter was grieved** because he said unto him **the**

third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, **thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee**. Jesus saith unto him, **Feed my sheep**.

- a. Notice the conversation starts after they have dined. Here is a good example of how to deal with God's people in your ministry!
 - i. Jesus allowed Peter to dry off, get warm, and eat!
 - ii. He welcomed Peter into this time of personal fellowship before the needed conversation ever took place
- b. Peter needs Jesus to publicly restore him because his sin had been so public
- c. The key issue is does Peter really love the Lord Jesus
 - i. He adds the phrase more than these
 - ii. Probably not talking about the fishing boats
 - iii. Probably not a way to put him in a superior position to the other disciples
 - iv. Probably a way to remind him of how boastful he had been. Do you love me like you claimed to love me
Matthew 26:33 Peter answered and said unto him, **Though all *men* shall be offended because of thee, *yet will I never be offended***. **John 13:37** Peter said unto

him, Lord, why cannot I follow thee now? **I will lay down my life for thy sake.**

- d. Peter denied Jesus three times and will be questioned three times
 - i. Peter is grieved that he has been asked three times
 - ii. Peter does love Jesus and makes that clear
- e. Everyone hears Jesus say ok Peter you are in the ministry of feeding my sheep, go do it-Peter is back in business
- f. Feeding the sheep refers to shepherding and pastoring.
 - i. It is an awesome responsibility to be a pastor, great responsibility **I Peter 5:2 Feed the flock** of God which is among you, **taking the oversight thereof**, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;
 - ii. The pastor is to protect the sheep **Acts 20:28-35 Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed** the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood. **29** For I know this, that after my departing shall **grievous wolves** enter in among you, not sparing the flock. **30** Also of your own selves shall men arise, **speaking perverse things, to**

draw away disciples after them. 31 Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years **I ceased not to warn every one** night and day with tears. 32 And now, brethren, **I commend you to God,** and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified. 33 I have coveted no man's silver, or gold, or apparel. 34 Yea, ye yourselves know, that these hands have ministered unto my necessities, and to them that were with me. 35 I have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.

iii. Pastors are under-shepherds. Jesus is the true Shepherd.

1. A pastor's chief responsibility is to love the Lord Jesus

2. His second is to love the flock that the Lord has given Him

3. He is to do his ministry no matter what it costs him

g. Peter knew that Jesus knew that he loved him and that he truly wanted to serve Him

h. The other apostles needed to hear this exchange

- i. They too had not done all that they should nor been where they should have been
- ii. They could see that Jesus was restoring Peter, Peter was forgiven but needed to be reminded of what his responsibility was
- iii. The other apostles would know that Jesus Himself had freed Peter to return to the ministry

2. Dying a death that will glorify God **18** Verily, verily, I say unto thee, When thou wast young, thou girdedst thyself, and walkedst whither thou wouldest: but when thou shalt be old, **thou shalt stretch forth thy hands,** and another shall gird thee, and carry *thee* whither thou wouldest not. **19** This spake he, signifying **by what death he should glorify God.** And when he had spoken this, he saith unto him, **Follow me.**

- a. Jesus lets Peter know that he will die or be executed.
- b. Apparently he will be crucified
- c. The interesting thing is that death was seen as a way to glorify God **Philippians 1:20** According to my earnest expectation and *my* hope, that in nothing I shall be

ashamed, but *that* with all boldness, as always, so now also **Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether it be by life, or by death.**

d. How can we glorify God in our deaths

- i. Believing that whatever God allows to happen in my life is for His honor and glory and my best [Romans 8:28-29](#)
And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to *his* purpose. 29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did **predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.**
- ii. Accepting God's will for my life, whether it is what I would have chosen or not!
- iii. Not complaining but being thankful
- iv. Thinking of all that God has given you instead of what you are going to miss out on
- v. Being faithful and serving until the last day of our lives
- vi. Controlling our thoughts-thinking of Bible truth rather than worldly wisdom
- vii. Seeing my dying as a platform to get the good news of Jesus to as many as possible

viii. Anticipating the opportunity to see Jesus and deepening that relationship more every day

e. Will we glorify God in our deaths

i. If we are complainers now then we will be more so when the pressure is on at death

ii. If we will not accept little set backs and things that happen in our life as being God working our lives now we certainly will not do so when death comes knocking

iii. If we do not live grateful lives now we will not when under so much pressure

iv. If we do not seek to share the gospel now what would make us different then

v. If we allow improper thoughts to rule our lives now what will happen when we are weak physically

vi. If we struggle to be faithful now what would have to happen to make us different when things really get tough

vii. If we do not want to know Jesus, see Him, and deepen our relationship now-how will we respond when we hear the dreaded news

3. Following Jesus no matter what **19 This spake he, signifying by what death he should glorify God.** And when he had spoken this, he saith unto him, **Follow me.** **22** Jesus saith unto him, **If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee? follow thou me.**

a. His sheep follow Him **John 10:27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:**

b. God's will for each of our lives is not the same

c. God's will for Peter was that he would be a martyr

d. Apparently His will for John was that he live much longer

i. He was exiled to the isle of Patmos where he wrote the book of Revelation

ii. We are not sure of how he died. Many say of old age others that he was boiled in oil

e. The point of the passage is that it doesn't matter what happened with Peter or John, each should just do what the Lord has for them to do.--Follow me!

f. We are not to compare ourselves among ourselves

II Corinthians 10:12 For we dare not make ourselves of the number, or compare ourselves with some that commend themselves: but they measuring themselves by

themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise.

- g. We are to run the race that is set before us [Hebrews 12:1](#)
Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset *us*, and **let us run with patience the race that is set before us**,
- h. We are not in competition with each other
 - i. We are simply to do His will for our lives
 - ii. We are to use what He has placed in our hands for His glory [The story of the talents, One hid his in a napkin, the others used theirs to the best of their ability](#)
- i. If we are servants our attitude should be, not my will be done but thine

- 4. Living a life that will glorify God [20](#) Then Peter, turning about, seeth the disciple whom Jesus loved following; which also leaned on his breast at supper, and said, Lord, which is he that betrayeth thee? [21](#) Peter seeing him saith to Jesus, Lord, and **what shall this man do?** [22](#) Jesus saith unto him, **If I will that he tarry till I come**, what *is that* to thee? **follow thou me.** [23](#) Then went this saying abroad

among the brethren, that **that disciple should not die:** yet Jesus said not unto him, He shall not die; but, If I will that he tarry till I come, **what is that to thee?**

- a. The strong implication was that John was not going to die though that is not what Jesus said
- b. But apparently he would live longer
- c. If God chooses to give you life how should you live it

Philippians 1:21 For to me **to live is Christ,** and to die *is* gain. **22** But if I live in the flesh, this *is* the fruit of my labour: yet what I shall choose I wot not. **23** For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better: **24** Nevertheless to abide in the flesh *is* **more needful for you.**

- d. **II Corinthians 5:14-15** For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead: **15** And *that* he died for all, that **they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again.**

- e. If God chooses to let you live a long life then use it for His honor and glory. Do not be selfish. Do not get caught up in all the games this world plays
 - f. Whether you are called upon to die or live it should be for His glory
5. Running your own race **23** Then went this saying abroad among the brethren, that **that disciple should not die:** yet Jesus said not unto him, He shall not die; but, If I will that he tarry till I come, **what is that to thee?**
- a. God's will is very different for each of us
 - i. He has given us different talents and abilities
 - ii. He has made us differently
 - iii. There is no shame in not being in the ministry full time or of being in the ministry full time
 - iv. Some were made to lead others to follow, just like He made men to be the head of the home and the wife the helpmeet
 - v. Each should seek out how God made him and decide to live to the fullest all that God put in him
 - b. God's will is the same for all of us

- i. We are all to be obedient
 - ii. We are all to serve God with all that we have
 - iii. We are all to bring glory to His name
 - iv. We are all to witness and share the gospel
 - v. We are never to use the excuse that God didn't make me that way to try and escape serving, loving, giving, forgiving etc
- c. You should hunger after God
 - d. You should be seeking Him to see how you can best serve Him
 - e. You should be more worried about how you are doing God's will than how others are or are not doing God's will