

WESTERN WISDOM BIBLE STUDY

The Mystic Interval

Initiatory Work of Peter and John (Cont.)

After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples at the sea of Tiberias.

Simon Peter saith unto them, I go a-fishing. They say unto him, We also go with thee. They went forth and entered into a ship immediately; and that night they caught nothing.

But when the morning was now come, Jesus stood on the shore; but the disciples knew not that it was Jesus.

Then Jesus saith unto them, Children, have ye any meat? They answered him, No.

And he said unto them, Cast the net on the right side of the ship, and ye shall find. They cast therefore, and now they were not able to draw it for the multitude of fishes.

Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved saith unto Peter, It is the Lord. Now when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he girt his fisher's coat unto him, and did cast himself into the sea.

And the other disciples came in a little ship; (for they were not far from land) dragging the net with fishes.

As soon as they were come to land, they saw a fire of coals there, and fish laid thereon, and bread.

Jesus saith unto them, Bring of the fish which ye have now caught.

Simon Peter went up and drew the net to land full of great fishes, an hundred and fifty and three; and for all there were so many, yet was not the net broken.

Jesus saith unto them, Come and dine. And none of the disciples durst ask him, Who art thou? Knowing that it was the Lord.

Jesus then cometh, and taketh bread, and giveth them, and fish likewise.

— *John 21:1, 3-13.*

Casting nets on the right side refers to the manner of lifting the Life Spirit force by the right or positive way to form the union or the mystic wedding of the two currents (nets) in head and heart. Such a development gives the transformed mind of which Paul speaks and also the Sacred Heart of Jesus. This perfect union is the ideal of esoteric Christianity and its truth will be understood and taught in the churches of the New Age.

Fish refer to the deeper esoteric truths gained through Initiation. The number 153 is but another form for nine, the number of humanity's present evolution, and here symbolizes the eventual attainment of all mankind.

Simon Peter drew the net to land, and the nets were not broken. Peter was thus ready to fulfill the words of his Teacher; he had become the rock (high Initiate) upon which the church was established. In the present Pisces-Virgo Age Initiation through chastity, the inner teaching, is understood and demonstrated by a very few only. Under Aquarius-Leo these truths will be publicly disseminated, *and lived by* many.

Peter was able to gird about him the fisher's coat and to go out to meet the master. It was after that incident that the Master consecrated Peter for his future ministry. The other Disciples came in a little ship; but they brought the nets laden with fish. The Christ had kindled a fire (the process of transmutation was complete), and on that fire He prepared broiled fish and honey which He and the Disciples ate together. Esoterically, this event marks the steps of unfoldment within the disciple himself. Honey, a sacred food, was regularly served in pre-Christian Mystery Temples when celebrating events having to do with spiritual attainment, and it was used also by the ancient Egyptians as an antidote for the bite of the serpent. In Babylonia sacred bodies were embalmed in honey.

The Cherubim no longer bar the gates of Eden for these Disciples. Arrayed in their new garments which are veritable bodies of light they are ready to follow the Christ withersoever He leads.