

***What Is That
To Thee?***

John 21:18-22

John 21:18-22

18 Verily, verily, I say unto thee, When thou wast young, thou girdest 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.

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?

John 21:18-22

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.

Introduction

A. The last words of Jesus recorded in John

1. A question

“What is that to thee?”

2. A command

“Follow thou me”

Introduction

B. A new chapter in Peter's life

1. He had left all to follow Jesus

Luke 18:28

Then Peter said, Lo, we have left all, and followed thee

2. His three-fold denial of Christ

3. He cannot go back to his old life after the resurrection

John 21:6

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.

4. The Lord reveals Peter's new direction

**Consider the Lord's
question when**

I. Allowing Another Person To Keep You From Following Jesus

A. A sensitive area for some

1 Corinthians 13:5

Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil;

B. You are NOT accountable for the sins of others

Romans 14:12

So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.

I. Allowing Another Person To Keep You From Following Jesus

C. The person closest to you may be keeping you from Christ

Matthew 10:36

And a man's foes shall be they of his own household.

Psalms 41:9

Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up his heel against me.

**D. Look past the failures of others
... to Christ**

II. You Have Been Hurt By Another Christian

A. How cruel some Christians can be!!

Hebrews 11:36

**And others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings,
yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment:**

II. You Have Been Hurt By Another Christian

B. And how self-righteous they can often seem

1. They are stumblingblocks

Romans 14:13

Let us not therefore judge one another any more: but judge this rather, that no man put a stumblingblock or an occasion to fall in his brother's way.

2. They are careless in speech

James 3:6

And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell.

II. You Have Been Hurt By Another Christian

C. Gossip distorted these words of Christ

John 21:23

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?

II. You Have Been Hurt By Another Christian

**Has your Christian life or service been injured by
thoughtless ones?**

III. You Envy Another's Talents Or Position

“Lord, what shall this man do?”

**A. Peter wants to compare his work to that of John
2 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.

III. You Envy Another's Talents Or Position

B. Have you been losing God's best because you are envious?

James 3:14

But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth.

III. You Envy Another's Talents Or Position

C. God often chooses to use those who think they have little to offer

1 Corinthians 12:24-25

24 For our comely parts have no need: but God hath tempered the body together, having given more abundant honour to that part which lacked.

25 That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another.

Follow Thou Me!!

No Excuses