

The Miracles of Jesus

Lesson Six

The First Miraculous Catch of Fish

Text: Luke 5:1-11

Introduction:

1. Before Jesus healed the nobleman's son, He declared, "A prophet hath no honor in his own country" (John 4:44).
2. Initially, in His "hometown" of Nazareth, the people seemed to accept Jesus, but this would not last (Luke 4:14-22).
3. When He began to declare God's love for the Gentiles, His own people turned against Him (Luke 4:23-31).
4. Thus, He traveled to Capernaum where He called four fishermen to become His disciples.
5. Luke's account shows that Jesus performed a marvelous miracle on this occasion...

I. The Miracle

- A. Peter and his partners had worked all night long without catching a single fish.
 1. They were professional fishermen; Jesus was not.
 2. Usually, fishing was done at nighttime or early morning.
- B. Yet, at Jesus' command, Peter launched the ship out into deeper water and they let down their nets.
- C. Immediately, their net captured so many fish that it began to break.
- D. Peter and Andrew called to their partners, James and John, for help.
- E. Together, they pulled in so many fish that both boats began to sink.

II. The Manifestation

- A. This miracle demonstrates Jesus' power over nature.
- B. It proves Jesus' authority as Master and teacher.
 1. It is interesting that Luke records the details of the miracle, but not the sermon.
 2. Luke, a Gentile physician, was writing to a Greek audience (1:3-4; Col. 4:14).
 3. His record of the miracle reveals why these fishermen would leave their work to follow Jesus.
 4. Remember, this was not the first time they had met Jesus (John 1:40).

III. The Message

- A. It is important to allow Jesus to use whatever we have.
- B. True faith is a complete trust that obeys God's commands.
- C. Without Jesus, man is a failure; with Him, there is success.
- D. Recognizing the power of Jesus should create an attitude of penitence and praise.
- E. We must be willing to forsake all to follow Him.

- F. Lessons on evangelism...
1. Christians are fishers of men.
 2. We must have the patience of fishermen.
 3. We must go where the fish are and use the right kind of "bait."
 4. We must be willing to ask for help and be willing to help others.
 5. We must never give up in our efforts, even if they seem fruitless.
 6. We must obey the commands of Christ.