

**This appearance of our Risen Lord and the miraculous catch of fish  
By His disciples symbolizes their great commission to become**

**“FISHERS OF MEN”**

**“STABILITY” OF THE SHORE**

**The Gospels tell us that after His Resurrection, Christ was seen on numerous occasions by His followers. One of the most interesting of these appearances is described in the writings of the Evangelist John as the “. . . third time Jesus showed Himself to His disciples after He was raised from the dead.” (John 21:14). Peter and several of the other apostles had been fishing all night on the Sea of Galilee with nothing to show for it. In the morning, Jesus called out to the Apostles from the shore, instructing them to “. . . cast the net on the right side of the boat.” Their catch was overwhelming – 153 large fish were caught and dragged to shore by them! After joining them for breakfast, Christ has the famous exchange with Peter, where the Lord asks him three times if he loved Him, giving him the opportunity to make amends for denying Him three times. It was also during the Post-Resurrection visitation that Jesus prophesied concerning Peter’s impending martyrdom (you will stretch out your hands and another will gird you and carry you where you do not wish ) as well as foretelling the lengthy life of His beloved disciple John.**

**There is also a subtle but powerful symbolism to this appearance that we should not overlook. The Apostles were in the midst of the waters, which could be quite turbulent. Christ was standing firmly on “solid ground” on the shore of the Sea of Galilee, where there was “peace.” When the Apostles eventually joined their Master on land, they, too, found themselves in a much more stable environment. so it is for us as well. Our journey on the “sea of life” is not always “smooth sailing.” We are often face with “waves” of confusion. Only when we cast aside the cares and temptations of this world can we ever hope to find Christ and the spiritual contentment He offers.**