

Outline of Fr. Patrick Winslow's Lecture on Lesson 28

II. Second Approach - Pastoral Points

a. Peter

- i. Who is Peter?
 1. The *hierarch*.
 - a. In Matthew 16:17-19 Peter is the one to whom the Father reveals that Jesus is the Son of the Living God.
 - b. Jesus gives to Peter the keys to the Kingdom of Heaven.
 - c. In John's gospel he is the one to whom John systematically yields, at the tomb and here at the Sea of Galilee.
 - d. Peter is clearly the hierarchical leader amongst them.
 2. The *convert*. (a sheep)
 - a. Jesus' first encounter with Peter. (Luke 5:10) After the miracle of fish that tore his net, Peter confesses to Jesus that he is a sinner and not fit to be in His presence.
 - b. Jesus calls Peter 'Satan' in Matthew 16:23 as he assumes that he can tell Jesus what He should do to avoid the cross.
 - c. In John's gospel, Peter denies Jesus three times.
 - d. Peter is a sinner trying to change, that he might 'follow' our Lord.
 - i. No surprise since Peter was a man of the world aside from being a Jew.
 1. We learn as we grow and are thereby formed.
 2. Peter was formed by the world in which he lived.
 - ii. There was much to be undone. There was much our Lord had to change in him.
 - iii. Peter had to be reformed; converted; re-created.
- ii. The text specifically imports both of these aspects of Peter into this encounter.
 1. Fishing on the Sea.
 - a. This recalls Peter's vocation story (miracle of fish tearing the net) and Jesus' statement that Peter would be a 'fisher of men'
 - b. This setting imports Peter's 'petrine' mission.
 2. The charcoal fire.
 - a. This recalls Peter's three-fold denial. (As well does the three-fold question.)
 - b. This setting imports Peter's need for conversion and mercy.
 3. The bread and the fish.
 - a. This refers to Peter's future.

b. John

i. Who is John?

1. The *contemplative*.

- a. John is the one with his head on Jesus' breast seated at His side at the Last Supper.
- b. John is the one to whom Peter turns to ask 'Who will betray Him?' and John is the one who gets Peter into the trial.
- c. John receives Blessed Mary at the foot of the cross.
- d. John is referred to as, 'the disciple whom Jesus loved.'
- e. John is the contemplative with his heart and soul close to the heart and soul of Jesus.

2. The *cradle practicing catholic*. (a lamb)

- a. John faithfully follows Our Lord's Passion.
- b. John is the first to believe at the tomb.
- c. John is the first to recognize Jesus on shore.
- d. John had not had other shepherds in his life but for THE SHEPHERD.

c. There are both 'Johns' and 'Peters' in the life of the Church.

i. John could be described as a lamb and Peter as a sheep.

1. The young lamb followed the only Shepherd he ever knew.

- a. Like John following the Good Shepherd wherever He went even unto the Cross of Calvary.

2. The older sheep had to be re-formed, re-taught, converted to follow the Shepherd.

- a. Like Peter fighting years of worldly formation and training making him initially incapable of following the Good Shepherd to the Cross.

3. Note: Sin Mysticism - bad idea and heresy.

- a. This is the erroneous notion that one is better off having sinned because through the experience of sin one becomes more knowledgeable about good and evil.

b. This is ridiculous.

- i. For example, it is not better a young man go to college and live out his sinful inclinations before entering the seminary because it will make him a better priest.
- ii. Notice the commands of Our Lord to Peter after his responses.
 1. *Feed my lambs; tend my sheep; feed my sheep.*
 2. Feed my 'Johns'; tend (form) my 'Peters'; feed my 'Peters'.
- iii. Entrusted to Peter's care are both the 'sheep' and the 'lambs.'
 1. Entrusted to Peter are both the innocent faithful and the converts.