

THE REAFFIRMATIONS OF A DEVOTED DISCIPLE

JOHN 21:15-17

I. WHY THE LORD QUESTIONED PETER'S LOVE

- A. He Could Have Questioned Him In Many Other Ways
- B. Genuine Love Does Embrace Every Other Legitimate Response
- C. Yet, It Is Possible To Make Much Of All The Elements Of An Obedient Faith While Lacking The Warmth Of A Proper Love That Motivates To Proper Obedience

II. HOW THE LORD QUESTIONED PETER'S LOVE (2:15-17)

- A. Round One: The Lord's Brings Up the Issue Of The Apostle's Comparative Devotion (21:15)
 - 1. The Antecedent Of "*These*"
 - 2. Peter's Answer Reflects His Unwillingness To Make Any More Comparisons Between Himself & Others
- B. Round Two: The Lord Omits The Comparative Element (21:16)
- C. Round Three: The Lord Challenges The Legitimacy Of Even Peter's Lesser Claim (21:17)

III. WHAT THE LORD DID IN RESPONSE TO PETER'S REAFFIRMATIONS (21:15-17)

- A. "*Feed My Lambs*" Peter Is Recommissioned To Minister To The Weakest, Most Vulnerable & Most Immature (21:15)
- B. "*Shepherd My Sheep*" Peter Will Once Again Assume His Role As A Minister To Those Who Have Had Some Experience In Christ (21:16-17)