

## **Hearing the Word-John 20 & 21 The Word & the Ministry of the Word**

### **A quick look at the lectionary's Easter Context: John 20 & 21**

- Primary Questions in John:**
- 1. Not Seeing and Not Believing**
  - 2. Seeing and Believing**
  - 3. Not Seeing (Hearing/Reading) and Believing**

### **The Governing Role of John 20:30-31 John Concluding Topic Sentence**

<sup>30</sup> Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book;

<sup>31</sup> but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name. (John 20:30-31 ESV)

1. John claims that there is no need to know every detail of the Life of Jesus in the manner of a modern biography. How do modern story tellers in books and films, etc., treat this idea? What do they do? How do you evaluate their work?
2. What is John's purpose in writing? What is their purpose in writing?
3. Who did John write his gospel for?
4. What does John mean by "Believe" (how do you know?); what does John mean by "Life" (how do you know?)
5. To what extent is this true of John's Gospel? To what extent is this true of all the books of the Old and New Testament?
6. How do we know which Books ought to be read in Worship? (Was Christum treibt)

<sup>19</sup> On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."

<sup>20</sup> When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.

<sup>21</sup> Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you."

Unpack Jesus' Greeting, "Peace be with you."      What do the words mean? Other Biblical material?

What does Jesus accomplish with these words here and now?

Why show his hands and his side?

Brainstorm a list of comparisons and contrasts:

The Father sent Jesus

Jesus sends the Disciples

What does this mean?

<sup>22</sup> And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

<sup>23</sup> If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld."

"He breathed on them" Other Biblical Connections? What does this mean?

"Receive the Holy Spirit" Other Biblical Connections? What does this mean?

If you forgive (present subjunctive); forgiven (perfect indicative)

How does Jesus' previous "sending" talk inform this forgiveness talk

Luther's Small Catechism – The Office of the Keys; Confession and Absolution

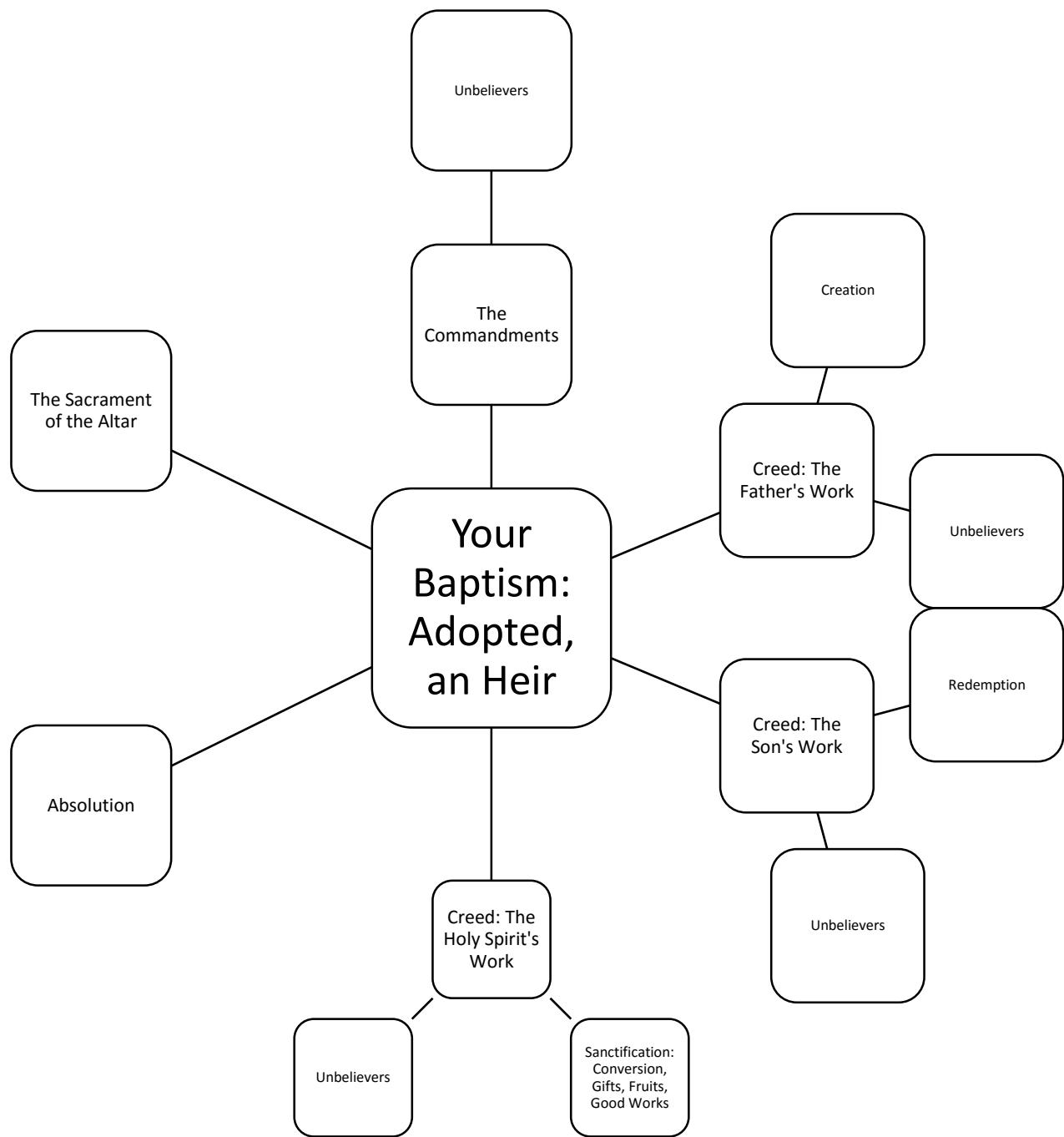
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John 21:15-25 Pastor = Shepherd

<sup>15</sup> When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Feed my lambs."

<sup>16</sup> He said to him a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Tend my sheep."

<sup>17</sup> He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" and he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep."



## **681 Send, O Lord, Your Holy Spirit**

- 1      Send, O Lord, Your Holy Spirit  
        On Your servant now, we pray;  
Let him prove a faithful shepherd  
        That no lamb be led astray.  
Your pure teaching to proclaim,  
To extol Your holy name,  
        And to feed Your lambs, dear Savior,  
        Make his aim and sole endeavor.
- 2      You, O Lord, Yourself have called him  
        For Your precious lambs to care;  
But to prosper in his calling,  
        He the Spirit's gifts must share.  
Give him wisdom from above,  
Fill his heart with holy love;  
        In his weakness, Lord, be near him,  
        In his prayers, Good Shepherd, hear him.
- 3      Help, Lord Jesus, help him nourish  
        All our children with Your Word  
That in fervant love they serve You  
        Till in heav'n their song is heard.  
Boundless blessings, Lord, bestow  
On his faithful toil below  
        Till by grace to him be given  
        His reward, the crown of heaven.

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## **682 God of the Prophets, Bless the Prophets' Sons**

- 1      God of the prophets, bless the prophets' sons;  
        Elijah's mantle o'er Elisha cast.  
Each age its solemn task may claim but once;  
        Make each one nobler, stronger than the last.
- 2      Anoint them prophets, men who are intent  
        To be Your witnesses in word and deed,  
Their hearts aflame, their lips made eloquent,  
        Their eyes awake to ev'ry human need.
- 3      Anoint them priests, strong intercessors they,  
        For pardon and for love and hope and peace,  
That, through their pleading, guilty sinners may  
        Find Jesus' mercy and from sin release.
- 4      Anoint them kings, yes, kingly kings, O Lord.  
        Anoint them with the Spirit of Your Son.  
Theirs not a jeweled crown, a bloodstained sword;  
        Theirs, by sweet love, for Christ a kingdom won.
- 5      Make them apostles, heralds of Your cross;  
        Forth let them go to tell the world of grace.  
Inspired by You, may they count all but loss  
        And stand at last with joy before Your face.

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