

Jesus 101

“Grace Thoughts”



IF THE SON SETS YOU FREE,
YOU ARE FREE INDEED!
JOHN 8:36

A short devotional to help get you excited about Jesus!

He said to him [Peter], “Follow Me!” –John 21:19

I don't know much about horses, but I think they are amazing animals. I have always wondered about the blinders that I often see covering their eyes. I did a little bit of research on this and learned that horses have peripheral vision. Sometimes they need blinders in order to keep focused forward instead of what is on the side, or behind. Blinders help horses stay on-course. Do you ever feel that your own mind needs blinders to remain focused on what matters most?

Our minds can get distracted by hundreds of questions like “what if?” “what about?” “what now?” and many others. Peter, the disciple, contemplated these types of questions too. Having commissioned him to “shepherd His sheep” (John 21:15-17), Jesus reveals to Peter something about his future (verse 18). When the Gospel of John was written, Peter had already become a martyr, and John adds a parenthetical statement commenting on Jesus' words: “Now this He said, signifying by what kind of death he would glorify God” (verse 19). Previously, Peter had told Jesus that he was ready to go with Him to death (Luke 22:33), and he would get that privilege. After this revelation about his future, Jesus said to Peter: “Follow Me!” Peter should not get distracted by this revelation but focus on following Jesus. Always the eager disciple, Peter's attention was often drawn off-course by his side vision, as was the case with the waves in the storm and his use of the sword at the time of the arrest of Jesus. This time was no exception. When he saw that John was following behind them (John 21:20), he wanted to know what would happen to him! Did Jesus have a word about John's future? “So Peter seeing him said to Jesus, ‘Lord, and what about this man?’ Jesus said to him, ‘If I want him to remain until I come, what is that to you? You follow Me!’” (verses 21, 22). For a second time, Jesus instructs Peter to focus, to follow Him, and leave the rest to Him. The One who purchased our salvation is also in full control of our life, death, and future, and he is also in charge of our loved ones. We can trust Him! Our existence is in His hands. Let's concentrate on following Him!