



from Garth...

Cast Your Net Again



Shoreline at Mensa Christi

When Gill and I were still taking pilgrimages in the Holy Land we would end up in Galilee – particularly taking time to pause at Mensa Christi (the table of Christ) or Peter's Primacy, a little chapel by the sea or lake of Galilee. It is nearly the end of our pilgrimage so this is a good place to stop and think back on all the people we have met, and all that

we have learnt on our journey. This place commemorates the third resurrection appearance of Jesus - he appears to the disciples when they have been fishing and caught nothing. It is an incident full of symbolism. It is "just after daybreak" and there is almost an air of despondency or of wondering what to do next – should they go back to fishing? But they have "toiled all night and caught nothing" – and then the resurrection breaks through. **The darkest hour is just before dawn: it is that time when we might feel like giving up and then the call comes – "cast your net again."** Jesus said to them, "cast the net on the right side of the boat... and... they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish." **It is the journey back to wholeness; something breaks through their despair, and our despair, and says, "There is hope, dawn is here."**

In today's song I use this story as a parable for us – a parable of hope – a parable

of resurrection.

**Cast your net again - it's not over
You'll find hope again – it's not over
Cast your net again – it's not over
Your life is not in vain – so cast your net again.**

Valid 'till closing time

If you're a member of the National Trust and you park at one of their places, you have to have your membership card scanned by their ticket machine. Then out comes your ticket that says "Valid till closing time". I love that little sentence – it sounds just like a country song! My son Joe has started writing it to encourage me to get on with it – here is his first verse:

**This old world it keeps on changing
At times I feel left behind
But if I need a line to keep in mind
It's "valid till closing time"...**

**And maybe it's a
good sentence to
remember – we are
"valid until closing
time" so "cast your
net again – it's not
over – you'll find
hope again."**

This song is one from the book and CD I did with artist Daniel Bonnell called "The Road Home."



Cast Your Net Again, painting by Daniel Bonnell

**[Click here for the
meditational film "Cast Your Net Again."](#)**

Meditation - You have not done with us yet

**God of darkness... as well as God of light
Wounded God... yet healing God
When we stumble on the journey and see no hope**

May we take time to walk away from what distracts us,
Take time to pause and be silent.
You were not there in the earthquake nor in the wind nor in the fire
But in the sheer silence;
It is there we meet you again.
May we go to the silence to restore our equilibrium -
To gain the strength to cast our net again as we realise
You have not done with us yet...
There is still hope.

Garth Hewitt



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