

## Make Me Your Harvest Net, O Lord of the Harvest!

*“So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net to land,  
full of large fish, a hundred and fifty-three;  
and although there were so many,  
the net was not torn.”*

John 21:11

The Prophet Ezekiel foretells this great catch of many fishes from John 21:11. ***“Their fish will be of very many kinds.”***

*“It will come about that every living creature which swarms in every place  
where the river goes, will live.*

*And there will be a very great number of fish,  
because these waters go there so that the waters of the sea  
are healed and become fresh;*

*so everything will live wherever the river goes.*

*And it will come about that fishermen will stand beside it;  
from Engedi to Eneglaim there will be dry places to spread nets.*

*Their fish will be of very many kinds,  
like the fish of the Great [Mediterranean] Sea.”*

Ezekiel 47:9-10

These fish of “*very many kinds*” mirror what the Lord Jesus Christ speaks of in John 10:16 about other sheep not of this sheep pen. Sheep pens were located in different places, so this infers a geographical, locational difference in the sheep.

*“I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen.*

*I must bring them also.*

*They too will listen to my voice,  
and there shall be one flock and one shepherd.”*

John 10:16

# **Make Me Your Harvest Net, O Lord of the Harvest!**

## **God Spreads His Net in Judgement**

In the Old Testament the net is expressed as a symbol for judgment, as we see in Habakkuk and other Prophets.

*“The Chaldeans bring all of them up with a hook,  
and drag them away with a net,  
and gather them together in their fishing net;  
so they rejoice and are glad.”*

Habakkuk 1:15

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*“And Ephraim is like a silly dove, without understanding:  
they call unto Egypt, they go to Assyria.  
When they shall go, I will spread my net upon them;  
I will bring them down as the birds of the heavens;  
I will chastise them, as their congregation hath heard.”*

Hosea 7:11-12

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## **Violations of Covenant Bring the Net of Judgement**

The ultimate judgement is violations of covenant with God.

*“Now Zedekiah dishonored the oath by breaking the covenant,  
and behold, he gave his hand and pledged his allegiance,  
yet did all these things; he shall not escape.*

*Therefore, thus says the Lord God,*

*‘As I live, I will bring down on his own head My oath  
which Zedekiah dishonored and My covenant which he broke.  
I will spread My net over him, and he will be caught in My snare;  
and I will bring him to Babylon and will enter into judgment with him there  
for his treason which he has committed against Me.  
All the choice men in all his troops will fall by the sword,  
and those that survive will be scattered to every wind;  
and you will know that I the Lord have spoken.’*

Ezekiel 17:18-21

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## **Birds of Every Kind**

In the very next verses, the Word of the Lord turns to prophesy of Messiah Jesus, Lord of the Harvest: “*and birds of every kind will live under this tree.*”

*“Thus says the Lord God,  
“I Myself will take a twig from the lofty top of the cedar and will set it out;  
I will crop off from the topmost of its young twigs a tender one  
and I will plant it on a high and lofty mountain.  
I will plant it on the mountain heights of Israel,  
that it may grow boughs and bear fruit and be a noble and stately cedar.  
And birds of every kind will live under it;  
they will nest [securely] in the shade of its branches.  
All the trees of the field will know that I the Lord bring down the tall tree,  
exalt the low tree, dry up the green tree, and make the dry tree flourish.  
I am the Lord; I have spoken, and I will fulfill it.”<sup>1</sup>*

Ezekiel 17:22-24

***Many kinds of fish ~ Sheep from different pens ~ Birds of every kind***

***One Tree ~ One Shepherd ~ Messiah Jesus Christ***

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## **Net as a Harvesting Tool**

In the Gospel, Jesus introduces the net as the end-of-age harvesting tool that is both for judgement and salvation. He teaches on the various dimensions and characteristics of the Kingdom of Heaven. One of these qualities of the Kingdom of Heaven is “*like a net.*”

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<sup>1</sup> These next three verses contain a word of prophecy regarding the coming of the Messiah, from the line of David, and His worldwide reign in the Millennium. (Source: Amplified Bible, © 2015 by [The Lockman Foundation](http://www.lockman.org), La Habra, CA 90631.)

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*“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net which was lowered into the sea,  
and gathered fish of every kind,  
and when it was full,  
they dragged it up on the beach;  
and they sat down and sorted out the good fish into baskets,  
but the worthless ones they threw away.  
So it will be at the end of the age;  
the angels will come and separate the wicked from the righteous  
and throw the wicked into the furnace of fire;  
in that place there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.”*

Matthew 13:47-50

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Before this final harvesting net, Jesus calls His fishermen of men to bring in the harvest of souls. It is no coincidence that Jesus' first disciples are two fishermen brothers, Andrew and Simon Peter, the latter on whom Jesus Christ will build His church.

### **Casting, Mending and Washing Nets**

The Gospel provides clues as to *how* to be a harvesting net for the Lord of the Harvest. Casting, mending and washing the net are important skills.

*“As Jesus was walking by the Sea of Galilee, He noticed two brothers,  
Simon who was called Peter, and Andrew his brother,  
casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen.”*

Matthew 4:18

*“And He said to them,  
'Cast the net on the right-hand side of the boat and you will find some.'  
So they cast [the net], and then they were not able to haul it in  
because of the great catch of fish.”*

John 21:6

## Make Me Your Harvest Net, O Lord of the Harvest!

As His harvest nets, we will ask the Lord to cast us into fruitful waters, as we commit to being obedient to His directions thereof.

### **Mending**

The Lord Jesus continues His recruitment of fishermen as His disciples.

*"And going on from there He noticed two other brothers,  
James the son of Zebedee, and his brother John,  
in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets;  
and He called them [to follow Him as His disciples]."*

Matthew 4:21

Our harvesting nets must be without holes, tears or weak spots, that they will catch and hold the harvested fish. This is part of being a spotless bride without wrinkle.<sup>2</sup>

### **Washing**

*"He saw two boats lying at the edge of the lake,  
but the fishermen had gotten out of them  
and were washing their nets."*

Luke 5:2

We cleanse our harvesting nets with the Word and self-examination, to serve the Lord of the Harvest rightly with purity and integrity.

*Ask the Lord of the Harvest, therefore,  
to send out workers into his harvest field."*

Matthew 9:38

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<sup>2</sup> *"Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to Himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless."* Ephesians 5:25-27

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### **Peter's Vision of Being a Fisher of Men**

The Lord of the Harvest teaches Peter how to be a discerner of the harvest, with what or whom it is acceptable for him to associate. The disciples had to be taught how to be true fishers of men. God is teaching and preparing us to be excellent harvesters of souls for the Kingdom of Heaven.

“Peter went up on the roof to pray.

He became hungry and wanted something to eat,  
and while the meal was being prepared, he fell into a trance.

He saw heaven opened and something like a large sheet being let down to  
earth by its four corners.

It contained all kinds of four-footed animals,  
as well as reptiles and birds.

Then a voice told him, “Get up, Peter. Kill and eat.”

“Surely not, Lord!” Peter replied.

“I have never eaten anything impure or unclean.”

The voice spoke to him a second time, “Do not call anything impure that  
God has made clean.”

This happened three times,  
and immediately the sheet was taken back to heaven.”

Acts 10:9-16

### **God Does Not Show Favoritism**

Acts 10:34-44 continues with God's teaching on being a harvest net.

*Then Peter began to speak:*

*“I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism  
but accepts from every nation the one who fears him  
and does what is right.*

*He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one  
whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead.*

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*All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”*

*While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message.”*

Acts 10:34-44

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### **PETITIONS TO BE A HARVEST NET**

Dear Heavenly Father, I am committed to continual self-examination to remove the planks from my own eye, the leaven from my own soul, the wounds from my own heart, to be a spotless bride, to be an imitator of Your Son Christ Jesus Yeshua, to be holy as You are holy.

Now in this great Harvest Season of Souls, I yearn to be used mightily of You to bring Your precious sons and daughters home to You. Make me a magnet for Your Kingdom, that through love and compassion, non-judgmentalness yet discernment, You will use me mightily to bring in a great harvest of souls, that they will receive healing, redemption, mercy and salvation through Your Son Jesus Yeshua, that we will be reunited as one flock with one shepherd, Your Son Jesus Christ.

### ***Help Me to Be an Imitator of God***

- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, I commit to Ephesians 5:1-2, that I shall *continually be an imitator of God, as Your beloved child. I commit to walk constantly in love just as also the Messiah loved us and gave Himself over on our behalf, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a fragrant aroma.*
- ◆ Make of me a harvesting net without holes, tears or weak spots, that it will catch, hold and bring safely to shore Your precious harvest of souls.

### ***I Shall Walk with Jesus***

- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, I declare that I shall walk with Jesus, as Jesus said to His disciples in Mark 1:17, *“Follow Me [as My disciples,*

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*accepting Me as your Master and Teacher and walking the same path of life that I walk], and I will make you fishers of men.”*

- ◆ I follow Jesus, I yoke myself to Jesus, I give myself wholly to Jesus, to be a fisher of men. I surrender, give over, my own ego mind views, beliefs, prejudices, fear, anxieties, insecurities and limitations. I lay them at the feet of the Cross and submit myself to Your perfect will.

### ***Here I am Lord, Send Me***

- ◆ Dear Lord of the Harvest, here I am, send me! Send me out to harvest Your souls! I proclaim Luke 10:2 which declares: *“The harvest is abundant [for there are many who need to hear the good news about salvation], but the workers are few. Therefore, ask the Lord of the Harvest to send out workers into His harvest.”*

### ***Give Me Ears to Hear and Heed***

- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, help me to hear and heed Your instructions, to go where You tell me to go, when You tell me to go, even when it doesn't make sense to my flesh mind; as Simon Peter demonstrates in Luke 5:5: *“Master, we worked hard all night and caught nothing [in our nets], but at Your word I will [do as you say and] lower the nets [again].”*
- ◆ Peter's obedience paid off: *“When they had done this, they caught a great number of fish, and their nets were [at the point of] breaking.”*  
Luke 5:6
- ◆ Dear Lord of the Harvest, I commit to humble obedience to heed Your voice, will and instructions, that You will fill my harvest net to the full!

### ***Cast, Mend and Wash My Net***

- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, mend and wash my harvest net, the tears and holes, the stains and sloth. I surrender to You to cast me as YOUR harvest net where and to whom You choose, as You taught Peter to do so.



## **Make Me Your Harvest Net, O Lord of the Harvest!**

- ◆ Dear Lord of the Harvest, I commit to continually cleansing myself with the Word and self-examination, to serve You rightly, with purity and integrity.

### ***Hear the Cries of the Harvesters***

- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, hear the cries of Your harvesters, according to James 5:4, "*the cries of the harvesters have come to the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth.*" Equip us O Lord! Equip our hearts! Equip our souls to be Your great harvesters!

### ***Harvest of Righteousness***

- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, I understand that the greatest net for harvesting souls for Your kingdom is my own inner righteousness, genuine kindness, patience, caring and love. Help me Lord God, to grow and strengthen in Your virtues of righteousness; as 2 Corinthians 9:10 inspires me: "*Now He who provides seed for the sower and bread for food will provide and multiply your seed for sowing [that is, your resources] and increase the harvest of your righteousness [which shows itself in active goodness, kindness, and love].*"

### ***Cast Me in the Deep Waters Lord***

- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, place me in deep waters where there are many fish ripe for the harvest, according to Luke 5:4: "*When He had finished speaking, He said to Simon [Peter], 'Put out into the deep water and lower your nets for a catch.'*"

### ***Good Soil***

- ◆ Heavenly Father, I seek to be Your good soil, fully ready and able to receive the richness of Your Word, as fruitful seed for harvest, according to Mark 4:20 which teaches: "*And the seed that fell on good soil represents those who hear and accept God's word and produce a harvest of thirty, sixty, or even a hundred times as much as had been planted!*"

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### ***Bless Our Harvest***

- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, I ask You to bless my harvest, bless me as Your harvest net, that it be filled to overflowing with the souls of Your sons and daughters. Dear Lord, we have been diligently cleaning out Your house these past several years, according to Haggai 1:9, and now I ask You to fulfill Your promise in Haggai 2:19 that says: *“I (the LORD) am giving you a promise now while the seed is still in the barn. You have not yet harvested your grain, and your grapevines, fig trees, pomegranates, and olive trees have not yet produced their crops. But from this day onward I will bless you.”*
- ◆ Thank you dear Father God, for sending me forth with Your blessing to be Your fruitful harvest net for my beloved country.

### ***A Crop of Love***

- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, help me to harvest a crop of love, according to Hosea 10:12: *“Plant the good seeds of righteousness, and you will harvest a crop of love. Plow up the hard ground of your hearts, for now is the time to seek the Lord, that He may come and shower righteousness upon you.”*
- ◆ Dear Lord God, I am committed to being a seed of righteousness, and so too planting seeds of righteousness through the fruits of the Spirit virtues of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control, according to Galatians 5:22. Let the Holy Spirit guide my life according to Galatians 5:16

### ***Harvest Prayer of Thanksgiving***

- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, we pray a harvest of souls prayer of Thanksgiving according to Luke 10:21: *“At that same time Jesus was filled with the joy of the Holy Spirit, and He said, “O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, thank you for hiding these things from those who think themselves wise and clever, and for revealing them to the childlike. Yes, Father, it pleased you to do it this way.”*

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- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, help me to see, recognize, discern, honor and harvest those who are childlike, those who society does not necessarily honor or recognize based on superficial standards, yet are so precious to You. Help me to always be as a child in purity and simplicity of heart, and obedience to You.

### **Thanks and Gratitude.**

- ◆ Thank you Lord of the Harvest, for receiving my prayers and petitions to be a great harvest net for Your Great Harvest Season!
- ◆ To You alone be all the glory in Heaven and Earth forever and ever! Amen!

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*“Jesus said to them,*

*‘My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me  
and to completely finish His work.*

*Do you not say, ‘It is still four months until the harvest comes?’  
Look, I say to you, raise your eyes and look at the fields and see,  
they are white for harvest.*

*Already the reaper is receiving his wages  
and he is gathering fruit for eternal life;  
so that he who plants and he who reaps may rejoice together.”*

John 4:34-36

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