



# **Appearing on the Shore**

**John 21:1-14**

**"Tally ho, good brother!" Chauncey greeted Algie, as he walked through the screened door of the Bonzai Brothers Flight School hangar.**

**"And greetings to you!" Algie replied as he tightened the last bolt on his airplane's engine. He carefully placed his wrench back in the toolbox and wiped the sweat from his forehead with the back of his hand. "Whew! It's a hot one today! No sea breeze to cool us off!"**

**Chauncey agreed and looked around. "It is a hot day. Have you seen Mumsy and Popsy? I haven't seen them in several days."**

**Algie pointed over to the empty spot in the hangar where Popsy usually parked his plane. "Actually, Popsy didn't want Easter to be over so he and Mumsy flew to Easter Island to hunt for giant Easter eggs."**

**"What?" Chauncey asked. "There are no giant Easter eggs on Easter Island."**

**"I know that, and you know that. But Popsy doesn't know that. Anyway, he sent a lovely postcard. It was in the mail that Pepper Pelican just brought in."  
Algie went over to the dusty worktable in the corner and shuffled through a stack of mail. "Oh, here it is." He said as he held up the postcard.**

**Chauncey reached for the card. "All right, let's have a look." He glanced at the picture on the front of the famous Easter Island stone statues before he flipped the card over to read the message on the back:**

***Dear Chauncey and Algie,***

***Having a lovely time. We met some big fellows on the island! I wanted to wrassle a few of them, but when I spoke to them they ignored me. Then Mumsy said that they were just big, stone statues made to look kind of like people. Oh well, they looked real to me! Their picture is on the front of this postcard.***

***800 Pound Gorilla and I are now hunting for the giant pelicans that lay the huge Easter eggs. When we catch those giant pelicans we're going to wrassle them until they give us their giant, chocolate Cadbury eggs. Then when we return, we'll make you a fine chocolate egg omelet for breakfast!***

***Love,  
Popsy***

**Chauncey smiled as he finished reading the card. "Oh that does sound yummy! And it reminds me of one of my favorite Bible stories!"**

**"That's funny. I don't recall any chocolate omelet stories in the Bible!" Algie replied.**

**Chauncey laughed and shook his head. "Oh no, of course not, but it was a story about a very special appearance of Jesus."**

**"I say, I'd like to have seen that with my own eyes!" Algie exclaimed.**

**"Oh yes, There were many eyewitnesses! In fact, Jesus appeared many times after He rose from the dead. Here, I'll show you. Let's get the Bible out right now!" Chauncey opened the drawer on the front of his workbench and took out a Bible. He flipped through the pages until he found the chapter he was looking for. "Well, Algie, this story that I am thinking about is found in the book of John. It's the story of Jesus appearing on the shore. He even did an amazing miracle."**

**"On the shore? Oh how I do love the seashore! Did Jesus come for a swim?"**

**"No," Chauncey replied. "He came to prove to His friends that He was truly alive. So, He made breakfast for them..."**

**"He did what?" Algie interrupted.**

**"Jesus cooked breakfast. Look, it's in your Bible," Chauncey replied.**

**Algie took the Bible as Chauncey handed it to him and looked at the passage.**

**"Ah, I remember this story. The disciples had been fishing all night and had not caught a single fish. I say, Chauncey, perhaps we should get a fisherman to help us out by acting out the story for us."**

**Chauncey gave a friendly slap on the back to his brother. "A capitol idea, Algie! And I know just the fisherman! Well, fisher-bird, actually. Pepper Pelican can catch anything! Let's go find him."**

**Algie and Chauncey walked out of the hanger and made their way down the path towards the beach. It was midmorning, so they knew Pepper would still be swooping over the waves catching his fish breakfast.**

**A few minutes later, they arrived at the beach. The sun was beating down on the sand and making it hot to the touch. A few sea gulls were wading at the water's edge, cooling their claws in the surf as it lapped ashore. They squawked their greetings as Algie and Chauncey walked up and down the beach, scanning the waves for Pepper.**

**"Oh, there he is! Ahoy, Pepper!" Algie called as he spotted Pepper skimming a wave.**

**Pepper waved a wing and swooped over to the brothers. "Hey guys, what's up?"**

**"Well," Algie began, "We were just talking about the time Jesus appeared on the shore and cooked breakfast for his disciples. But before Jesus arrived, his disciples had been fishing all night and had not caught a single fish."**

**"So," Chauncey continued. "We thought you could help us understand the story by acting it out; especially since you are such a great fisher-bird."**

**Pepper puffed out his chest with pride and squawked, "Well, you've come to the right bird! I'm the best fisher-bird this side of New Zealand. Just tell the story, and I will show you how to catch fish!"**

**"Great!" Chauncey replied. "Well, as I told you, the disciples had been fishing all night on their boat and had not caught a single fish."**

**"Hmm, that sounds familiar! I've been fishing for three hours now and I'm not finding a single minnow!" Pepper flapped his wings in frustration.**

**"Well listen to what happened next, Pepper. Then Jesus appeared on the shore." Chauncey continued.**

**"Wait," Pepper said. "But I thought Jesus had died."**

**"He had died." Chauncey explained. "But, remember what the angel said about Jesus' empty tomb?"**

**"Yes! That's right, the angel told them, 'He is not here. He has risen just as He said!' Didn't his friends believe the angel? Didn't they recognize Jesus standing on the beach?" Pepper asked.**

**Chauncey shook his head. "Not right away, but the Bible says, Jesus called to them, 'friends, haven't you any fish?' 'No,' they answered. He said, 'Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some.'**

**Algernon patted Pepper on the beak. "Maybe that's it, Pepper. You need to look to your right as you fly over the waves. Maybe that's the side the fish are on today."**

**"Why my right side?! Oh well, I'll try anything to get breakfast." Pepper shook his head and flew off over the waves, hungry enough to try fishing one more time. Chauncey continued with the story. "When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish. It was a miracle!"**

**Algernon smiled and agreed, "A miracle!"**

**Chauncey looked out to sea and noticed Pepper was flying just a few feet above the water. "What is he doing? Didn't we tell him to look to the right? He's looking to the left."**

**"Look to your right!" Algernon shouted to Pepper.**

**Pepper turned to the right and immediately dove beneath a wave. He appeared seconds later with a large silvery fish held firmly in his beak.**

**"Wow! It's just like when Jesus told the disciples to fish on their right!" Algernon exclaimed. "Except that they caught 153 fish at one time. It really was a miracle! Wait a tick! This story looks familiar! Jesus did this once before. I recognize this miracle!"**

**Chauncey agreed. "Perhaps the disciples recognized it, as well. At any rate, as soon as they realized it was the Lord, Peter jumped overboard and swam to shore to see Jesus."**

**Pepper landed nearby. As he began to enjoy his breakfast, Algernon said, "That is wonderful! Now, tell me Chauncey, what did the disciples do once they got to shore? Did they ask Him tricky questions to be sure He was really Jesus?"**

**"Nope. It says in the Bible, 'Jesus said, "Come and have breakfast." None of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord.'"**

**"Ah, they knew it was Him - they recognized His miracle." Algernon said.**

**Chauncey nodded. "That's how it is sometimes when we recognize Jesus working in our lives. It's because the Bible stories have shown us who Jesus is and what incredible things He has done."**

**"And it's like we always say, it's incredible but true, what the God of Wonders can do!" Algie said with a big smile.**

**"Good show, Algie!" Chauncey replied. "Let's go over to Pepper and find out if he is enjoying his breakfast catch."**