

## Matt. 4:18-19 FISHERMEN

**Matt. 4:18-19** *“Now as Yeshua was walking by the Sea of Galilee, He saw **two***



*brothers, Simon who was called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. And He said to them, (written in red) **“Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.”*** The first four disciples Yeshua chose, (Peter, Andrew, James and John), were fishermen (notice also they did not volunteer). As most people understand, fisherman are fanatics.

Fisherman will sit very patiently for hours on end waiting for a bite. They are extremely patient and enduring. They are also willing and able to sit through many storms and crazy weather conditions in order to catch what they are pursuing. We should also notice that two fishermen were throwing the nets and two were mending the nets. This too is symbolic of the apostolic way of doing things: proclaiming the Word to the lost sheep, and making sure the nets are maintained and in good

condition, (teaching the truth to the sheep). The fishermen worked in unity (echad). Today's churches are casting nets with holes in them. “Follow me” was the same as Yeshua said, as a Rabbi, (“come”, in Matt. 14:29, John 6:19-20 (see John 6:19-20, Matt. 14:29). Also look at Luke 9:57-62.

## Jer. 16:14-18 FISHERMEN AND HUNTERS

**Jer. 16:14-18** *“Therefore behold, days are coming,” declares Yahveh, “when it will no longer be said, ‘As Yahveh lives, who brought up the sons of Israel out of the land of Egypt,’ 15 but, ‘As Yahveh lives, who brought up the sons of Israel from the land of the north and from all the countries where He had banished them.’ For I will restore them to their own land which I gave to their fathers. 16 **“Behold, I am going to send for many fishermen,”** declares Yahveh, **“and they will fish for them; and afterwards I shall send for many hunters,** and they will hunt them from every mountain and every hill, and from the clefts of the rocks.” 17 “For My eyes are on all their ways; they are not hidden from My face, nor is their iniquity concealed from My eyes. 18 “And I will first doubly repay their iniquity and their sin, because they have polluted My land; they have filled My inheritance with the carcasses of their detestable idols and with their abominations.”*

Jeremiah is talking about why Israel was scattered to begin with. He says they will be punished for what they did and scattered into the nations. Jeremiah is telling of a time in the last days that will be exactly the same as at the time of the Exodus. Yah will send out fishermen and hunters to look for His remnant and bring them back to Israel. He will send fishermen for those who are symbolically out in the sea of the nations, and He will send hunters for those on the land of the nations. Jeremiah is sending out a "word picture" in his prophesy so that people will understand fishermen and hunters will gather the people back to Israel.

As you recall Yeshua gathered fishermen when He first put together His disciples (Matt. 4:19, 13:48, Luke 5:2). He was doing so uplifting the prophecy of Jeremiah. He was putting together disciples who would go out into the nations and gather together (fish) those who had been scattered, just as Jeremiah said. This is the whole idea of the good news, the gospels message, and their redemption. The term "fish" is used for the letter "noon", and the letter "noon" is about the resurrection. Ephraim ties in with this because Moses blessed him saying his people would become like the fish of the sea. The fish of the sea are scattered all over the world and Yah will send fishermen to gather together all these remnant.

For the others who are on land He will send out hunters to gather them together. This theme is seen throughout scripture; Yah scattered the people, and He will gather them back in the end of days. It's the picture of redemption seen throughout the bible and part of the theme of the Exodus.

In fact Jeremiah is telling the people of our time exactly what happened in the past and how it will happen again. **Jer. 16:10-13** *"Now it will come about when you tell this people all these words that they will say to you, 'For what reason has Yahveh declared all this great calamity against us? And what is our iniquity, or what is our sin which we have committed against Yahveh our Elohim?' 11 **"Then you are to say to them, 'It is because your forefathers have forsaken Me,' declares Yahveh, 'and have followed bother gods and served them and bowed down to them; but Me they have forsaken and have not kept My law. 12 'You too have done evil, even more than your forefathers; for behold, you are each one walking according to the stubbornness of his own evil heart, without listening to Me. 13 'So I will hurl you out of this land into the land which you have not known, neither you nor your fathers; and there you will serve other gods day and night, for I shall grant you no favor.'***

The "calamity" Jeremiah is speaking of is the fact that the people were scattered throughout the nations. Jeremiah explains why all of this happened. It was because of the iniquity of their fathers. He's explaining to the future generations why they are all scattered throughout the land and that some day they will all be gathered together again. When he says in verse 12; **"you too have done evil"** he is talking to this generation. This generation has done the same foolish things that the generations long before them did; when they quit abiding in Yah's commandments, His law. The Good News is that Yah is sending fishermen and hunters out to find His remnant, those who will obey, and He is returning them to Israel in the last days. He is doing so because He made a promise to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob that He would bring the people into the Promised Land. He promised the land to their descendants, and we are their descendants. This can be taken symbolically and many even take it literally. This event, coming out of the Great Tribulation will be a much greater event even than Exodus was.

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