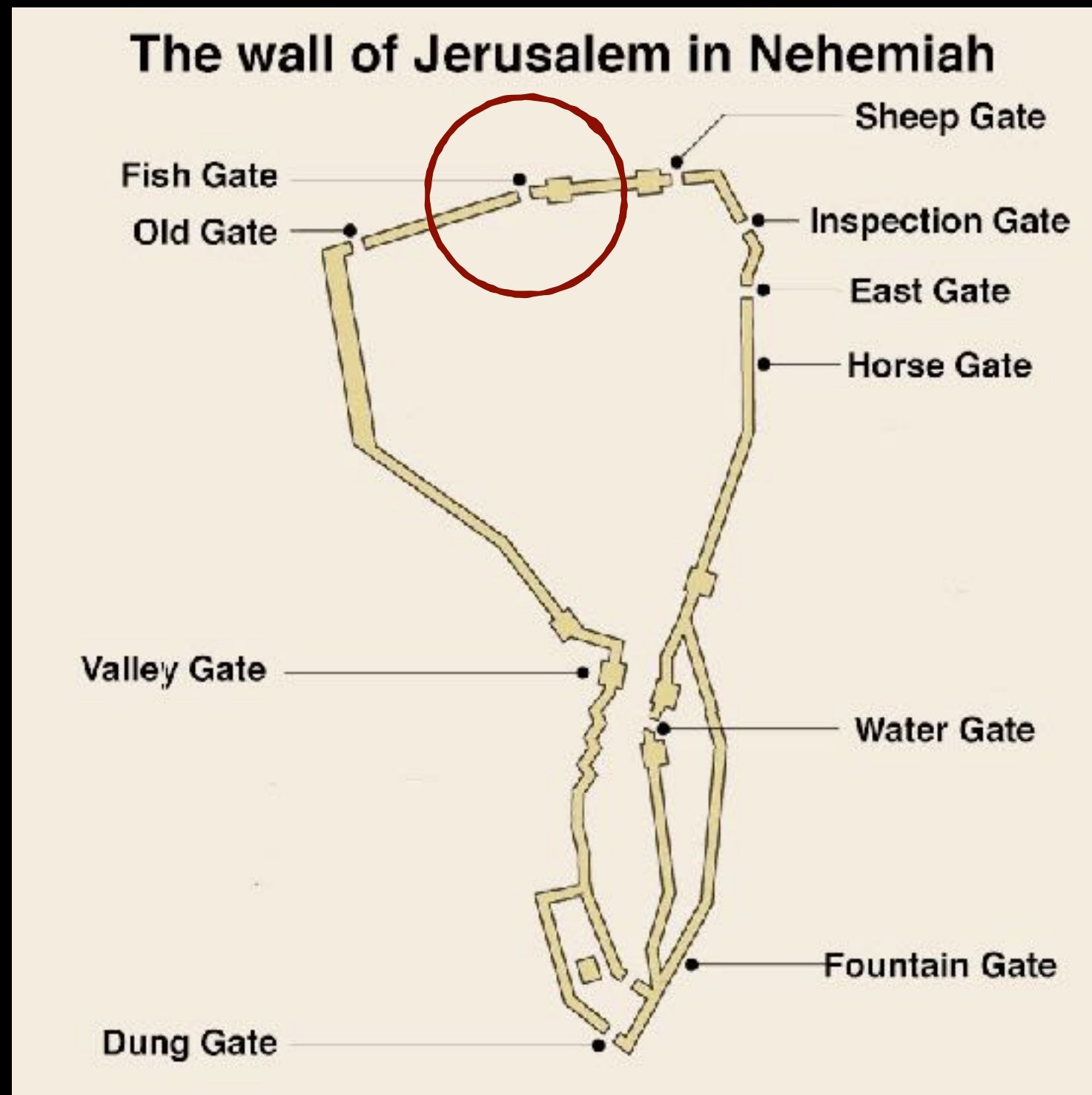


2. THE FISH GATE

NEHEMIAH 3:3

THE FISH GATE



REBUILDING THE GATES OF
JERUSALEM

REBUILDING THE
GATES OF THE
NEW JERUSALEM



REVELATION 21:1-4

1 Then I saw 'a new heaven and a new earth,' for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. **2** I saw the Holy City, **the new Jerusalem**, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. **3** And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'Look! God's dwelling-place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. **4** "He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death" or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.'

WHAT DO THESE GATES SIGNIFY?

- Openings into the new order of things
- The Fish Gate was where fishers brought their fish to sell in the market place
- In the new order of things, the Fish Gate signifies where fishers bring people into the kingdom of heaven



MATTHEW 4:17-20

17 From that time on Jesus began to preach, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.'

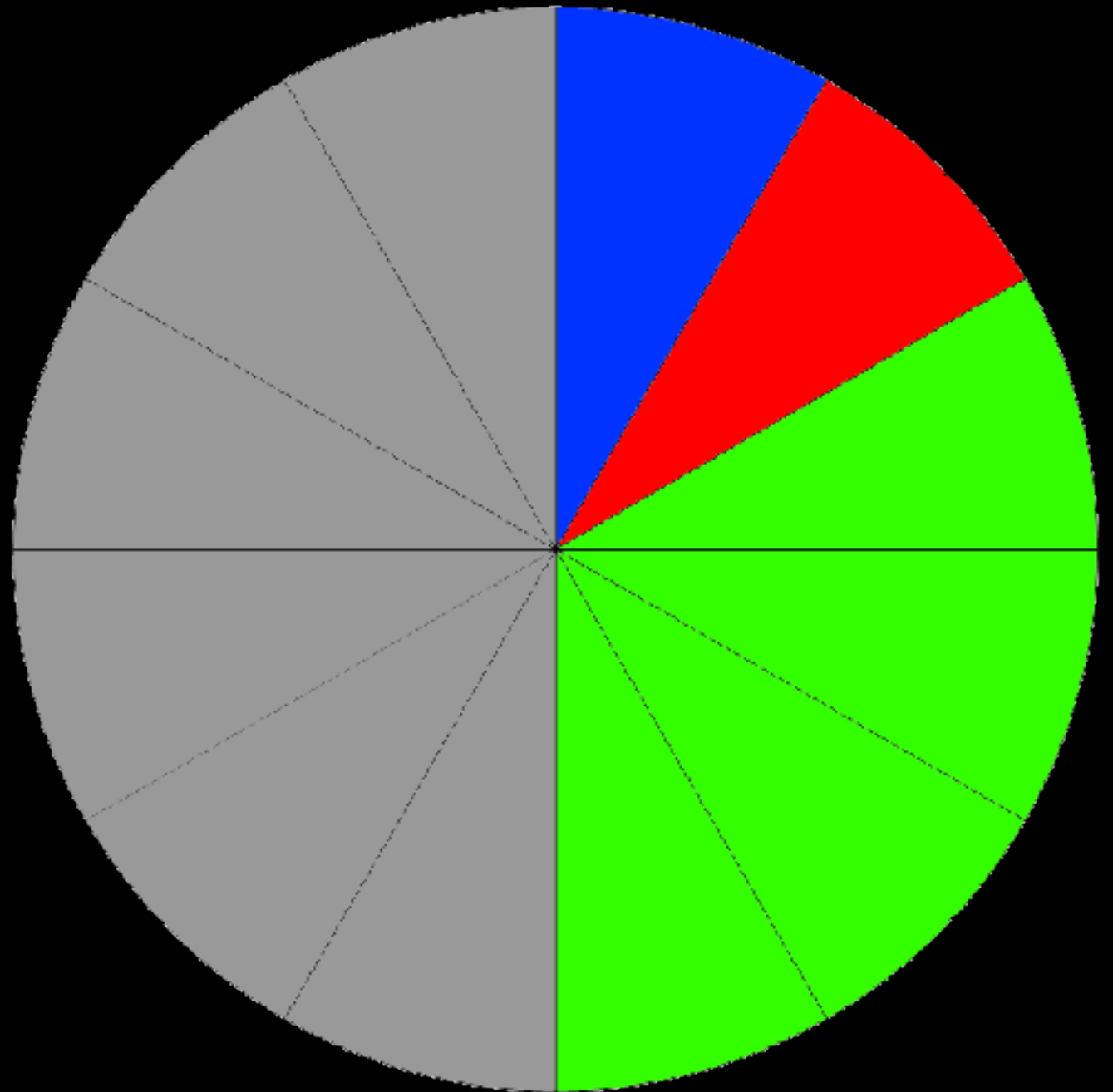
18 As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. **19** 'Come, follow me,' Jesus said, 'and I will send you out to fish for people.' **20** At once they left their nets and followed him.

MATTHEW 4:21-22

21 Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with their father Zebedee, preparing their nets. Jesus called them, **22** and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

WHAT WERE THE OCCUPATIONS OF THE 12 DISCIPLES?

- One was a Tax Collector
- One was a Zealot
- At least four of them were Fisherfolk
- The others are unknown



THE SYMBOL OF THE FISH

- Secret sign of the early church
- Fish (ichthus in greek)
- Jesus Christ, God's son, Saviour



MATTHEW 4:19

WHAT DID JESUS MEAN "TO FISH FOR PEOPLE"?



MATTHEW 4:23-25

23 Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and illness among the people.

24 News about him spread all over Syria, and people brought to him all who were ill with various diseases, those suffering severe pain, the demon-possessed, those having seizures, and the paralysed; and he healed them.

25 Large crowds from Galilee, the Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea and the region across the Jordan followed him.

FISHERS OF PEOPLE

- Give out the future glory of the kingdom
- Demonstrate the goodness of God
- Live with the Living God as their closest friend



THE NET OF FAITH



LUKE 9:1-2

1 When Jesus had called the Twelve together, he gave them power and authority to drive out all demons and to cure diseases, **2** and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal those who were ill.

LUKE 10

- 1** After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go.
- 8** 'When you enter a town and are welcomed, eat what is offered to you. **9** Heal those there who are ill and tell them, "The kingdom of God has come near to you."

MARK 16:15-18

15 Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation ...

17 And these signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new tongues; **18** they will pick up snakes with their hands; and when they drink deadly poison, it will not hurt them at all; they will place their hands on people who are ill, and they will get well.

