

The Apostle Peter
In the Hall of Shame and Fame



Mess Ups of the Bible

I. Review:

Scripture	Events
Matthew 4:18-21	Peter called by Jesus
John 18:1-11	Peter cuts an ear off Malchus
John 20:1-9	Peter still unsure over the Lord's missing body
John 13:18-38	Peter claims he will die for Jesus
John 18:1-27	Peter denies Jesus three times

A. So Peter was impetuous, forward, and sometimes brash.

Like Peter, what kind of problems do each of us have that seem to get us into hot water?

B. Have you ever found yourself denying Jesus? How so?

Application:

1. Individually, how can we pray for one another? What denials can each us begin to pray about?
2. As a group, is it possible we are denying our Savior? If so, how so? If not, how not?

WESTSOUND.ORG

II. Review

Scripture	Events
John 21:1-14	Jesus visits the disciples as they fish
John 21:15-17	Jesus reinstates Peter with three questions
John 21:18,19	Jesus predicts Peter death

A. For three denials, Jesus asks Peter three questions.

Comment: Much has been made over the fact that Jesus and Peter used different words for “love” in this passage. Very skilled and godly Bible teachers disagree on just why this is the case, so we should be careful not to read anything into the passage based on the choice of words used by Jesus and Peter. What we are absolutely sure about, however, is the emphasis Jesus created by asking the question three times. He drove the point home and dug deep into Peter’s heart. He caused Peter to think deeply about his response. The fast, brash proclamations of faithfulness made in the past would not do. To become the servant of God the church and world needed Peter to be would require a humble, penetrating introspection of his true feelings, motives, and intentions.

B. If you have accepted Jesus as your Savior, have you put yourself in Peter’s sandals? When you talk about loving God, are you a pre-denial Peter or a post-denial Peter?

Application:

1. What can you celebrate concerning all of this?
2. What can you work on concerning all of this?