

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO PETER? (MATTHEW 26:69-75)

Peter was man of faith. But his faith wasn't perfect. On the day of Christ's crucifixion, he denied Jesus three times in the courtyard of Caiaphas. However, Jesus remained faithful to Peter. He did not deny him.

Because we are imperfect people serving a perfect God, we are bound to fail Him at times. Like Peter, you will find yourself sinning and falling short of the glory of God. The more closely you look at yourself, the more you will realize just how imperfect you are: Your faith is imperfect; your love is imperfect; your witness is imperfect; your prayers are imperfect... Basically, everything about you is IMPERFECT! But before you grow disheartened, you need to realize that God has a unique way of relating to imperfect people – through His wonderful grace.

Moreover the law entered that the offense might abound. But where sin abounded, grace abounded much more - Romans 5:20

“The floods of grace prevail above the mountains of our sins. Almighty love paints a rainbow on the blackest clouds of human transgression.” – Spurgeon.

POINTS TO PONDER

A. Jesus Named Peter (John 1:42) – His name *Cephas* means “Rock.”

B. Peter's Great Fall – Surveying the Courtyard Scene (Matt 26:69-75)

- Beware of Self-Confidence!
- Some Telltale Signs of Self-Confidence:
 - Not Following God's Plan Salvation
 - Starting Your Day Without a Quiet Time
 - Missing Church
 - Making Decisions Without the Lord's Clear Leading

C. Peter Goes Fishing (John 21)

- “Cast the Net on the Right Side” (v6)
- “One Hundred and Fifty Three Large Fish” (v11)
- “Come and Eat Breakfast” (v12)
- “Do You Love Me?” - Jesus
- “Follow Me” (v19)
- In one moment, Jesus dealt with Peter's past (his sin was forgiven and forgotten), his present (“follow Me”), and his future (Jesus mentioned Peter's glorious end).

WHAT IS GOD SAYING TO ME?

- God's grace is sufficient for all your failures.
- There is nothing you can do to stop God loving you.
- When you are on the Lord's side, the Lord is on your side! (Ps 118:6)