



Thank you for downloading
CQ Rewind - Summary Only Version!

Each week, the **Summary Only** version provides you with approximately 4 pages of brief excerpts from the program, along with Scripture citations.

If you would like to receive the
CQ Rewind FULL EDITION at no charge, simply sign up at
www.ChristianQuestions.net.

The **FULL EDITION** of approximately 10-12 pages includes comprehensive excerpts from the program, fully quoted Scriptures, graphics, illustrations, and even extra study points that time prevented us from covering during the live program.



What Can We Learn From Peter? (Part 2)

Matthew 4:19: (KJV) ¹⁹*And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.* ²⁰*And they straightway left their nets, and followed him.*



A few weeks ago on May 20th, we discussed Part 1 of our conversation about the Apostle Peter. We covered his life from his being introduced in the Scriptures as a typical fisherman from Galilee, up to his proclamation that Jesus was the Messiah and his angst at Jesus saying that he, Jesus, would have to die. These three things typify the life of Peter: a regular guy of no singular background, impetuous - willing to speak up when others would not, and often getting into some kind of trouble for things he said or did. Stay with us as we look further into this utterly fascinating life of a man who would become one of Christianity's greatest leaders.

Let's jump ahead in Peter's life to one of his most dramatic defining moments - the night before the crucifixion.

Jesus taken to be questioned by the High Priest: Mark 14:53-55: Remember, Peter had just cut off the ear of Malchus in defense of Jesus.

The following account occurred after the assembling of false witnesses against Jesus and his being proclaimed a blasphemer. How did Peter sink so low as to deny Jesus even once, let alone three times?

Matthew 26:67-74: (with details from Luke 22 as indicated) (NASB) ⁶⁷*Then they spat in his face and beat Him with their fists; and others slapped him,* ⁶⁸*and said, Prophecy to us, you Christ; who is the one who hit you?* ⁶⁹*Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard,* (Luke 22:56) ⁵⁶*And a certain maid seeing him as he sat in the light of the fire, and looking steadfastly upon him, said, This man also was with him.* ⁷⁰*But he denied it before them all, saying, I do not know what you are talking about.* (Luke 22:58) ⁵⁸*And after a little* ⁷¹*When he had gone out to the gateway, another servant-girl saw him and said to those who were there, This man was with Jesus of Nazareth.* ⁷²*And again he denied it with an oath, I do not know the man.* (Luke 22:59) ⁵⁹*And after the space of about one hour the bystanders came up and confidently affirmed, Surely you too are one of them; for even the way you talk gives you away.* ⁷⁴*Then he began to curse and swear, I do not know the man!* And immediately a rooster crowed while he yet spake. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how that he said unto him, *Before the cock crow this day thou shalt deny me thrice.* (Luke 22:62) ⁶²*And he went out, and wept bitterly.*

Here in many ways ends the first part of Peter's life. He would not see Jesus again before Jesus was to suffer and die alone, having been abandoned by his closest friends - especially by Simon Peter, "the rock." Peter was the outspoken one who not only abandoned him, but denied that he even knew him three times. How did Peter get here?! How did he go from being so faithful, firm and favored to being so careless, cowardly and crude?!

Visions, Taxes and Forgiveness...

Very shortly after Peter reveals that Jesus is the Messiah and Jesus rebukes Peter for his opposition to the coming suffering of Christ, Jesus takes Peter, James and John to a special place...The Transfiguration: Matthew 17:1-13: (NRSV) Mark 9:2-13: (NRSV) and Luke 9:28-36: (NRSV)

Matthew 17:1: One of many times when these three were singled out for special experience and insight.)



Peter, James and John, Life of the Apostle Peter, Mosaic Television

- *He's part of an inner threesome of the twelve apostles that seem to have a special close relationship with Jesus - Peter, James, and John. We find that in three scenes in the Gospel of Mark when Jesus raises the daughter of Jarius, Peter, James and John are there. When he goes to the Mount of Transfiguration, Peter, James and John accompany him, and when he prays in the Garden of Gethsemane, Peter, James and John are especially mentioned there. Who do you want with you at times like that? Sacred moments, revelatory moments, agonizing moments...you want your closest companions.*

Luke 9:29: *And while he was praying,* Mark 9:2-4: *he was transfigured before them,* ³*and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them.* ⁴*And there appeared*



to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Luke 9:31: They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Mark 9:5-6: ⁵Then Peter said to Jesus, Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah. ⁶He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Matthew 17:5-13: ⁵While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him! ⁶When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. ⁷But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid. ⁸And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. ⁹As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead. ¹⁰So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what this rising from the dead could mean. ¹¹He replied, Elijah is indeed coming and will restore all things; How then is it written about the Son of Man, that he is to go through many sufferings and be treated with contempt? ¹²but I tell you that Elijah has already come, and they did not recognize him, but they did to him whatever they pleased. ¹³Then the disciples understood that he was speaking to them about John the Baptist.

What did this vision picture? It was a dramatic message. Moses pictured the earthly Law brought to humankind. Elijah, taken up in a fiery chariot, pictured the heavenly reward of those who follow Jesus. And Jesus, in the center, was the ransom, perfectly executing God's plan for all mankind.

A lesson At Peter's house regarding payment of the Temple tax: Peter's lesson was: For the people's sake, comply with the laws of the land even if you are above them.

Jesus' lesson to Peter on forgiveness: Matthew 18:21-22: Peter's lesson was: This is what Christianity is supposed to be about - we live by a higher standard and be forgiving in our attitude.

How would Jesus prepare his followers for his apparently untimely end?

Peter was there for all of these event that we don't have time to review. Shouldn't these all have been enough to get Peter's mind and heart solidified?

The raising of Lazarus, The plot against Lazarus, The triumphal entry into Jerusalem, Jesus weeps over Jerusalem, The cleansing of the Temple, The withering of the fig tree, The woes to the Scribes and Pharisees, Jesus' lament over Jerusalem, Jesus great prophecy of his own return, The anointing at Bethany

Preparation for the Passover: Luke 22:8-15 **Washing the Apostles' feet:** John 13:3-16: Jesus tells them, do as I say AND do as I do! This was hours before the Gethsemane experience. Jesus is trying to build them up but yet they still end up faltering. **The Last Supper: Peter's denial predicted:** Matthew 26:31-35: Peter (again being Peter!) is sure of his faith because he is sure of Jesus and too sure of himself! Peter next would have heard the encouraging words from Jesus recorded in John 14-17 in preparation for what was the difficult times to come. **Gethsemane:** Mark 14:32-42 **Jesus arrested:** Luke 22:47-49: Imagine the Apostles' shock of their former friend and confidant showing up with armed forces!

John 18:10-11: (NASB) ¹⁰Simon Peter then, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's slave, and cut off his right ear; and the slave's name was Malchus. ¹¹So Jesus said to Peter, Put the sword into the sheath; the cup which the Father has given me, shall I not drink it? Luke 22:51-53: ⁵¹... And he touched his ear and healed him. So, Peter leaps into action, only to be told to stand down and have his aggression reversed by healing. ⁵²Then Jesus said to the chief priests and officers of the temple and elders who had come against him, Have you come out with swords and clubs as you would against a robber? ⁵³While I was with you daily in the temple, you did not lay hands on me; but this hour and the power of darkness are yours....and Jesus goes willingly - and alone.

So with all this commotion, how does Peter do? How would YOU do?

Let's take a closer look at Peter's denial:

Matthew 26:67-74: (with details from Luke 22 as indicated) (NASB) ⁶⁷Then they spat in his face and beat Him with their fists; and others slapped him, ⁶⁸and said, Prophecy to us, you Christ; who is the one who hit you? ⁶⁹Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard, (Luke 22:56) ⁵⁶And



a certain maid seeing him as he sat in the light of the fire, and looking steadfastly upon him, said, This man also was with him. ⁷⁰But he denied it before them all, saying, I do not know what you are talking about. (Luke 22:58) ⁵⁸And after a little ⁷¹When he had gone out to the gateway, another servant-girl saw him and said to those who were there, This man was with Jesus of Nazareth. ⁷²And again he denied it with an oath, I do not know the man. (Luke 22:59) ⁵⁹And after the space of about one hour the bystanders came up and confidently affirmed, Surely you too are one of them; for even the way you talk gives you away. ⁷⁴Then he began to curse and swear, I do not know the man! And immediately a rooster crowed while he yet spake. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how that he said unto him, Before the cock crow this day thou shalt deny me thrice. (Luke 22:62) ⁶²And he went out, and wept bitterly.

Denial #1: Public announcement to all that could hear.

Denial #2: Denies with an oath - an even stronger denial.

Denial #3: He curses and swears he "does not know the man!"

Jesus understood Peter, and God likewise understands our frailties: Isaiah 42:3 Psalms 147:3

The Resurrection: Mark 16:1-8: (NRSV) ¹When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. ²And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³They had been saying to one another, Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb? ⁴When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. ⁵As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. ⁶But he said to them, Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples **and Peter** that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you. ⁸So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

They were given specific and clear instructions: John 20:2-10: (NRSV) ²So she (Mary Magdalene) ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him. And they still get it all wrong even though an angel specifically explained this to them! Seems very symptomatic of the times and the drama! ³Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. ⁴The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, ⁷and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. ⁸Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁹for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰Then the disciples returned to their homes.

Although John beat him to the tomb, it appears that out of respect he has Peter go in first. Peter again shows his deep love for the Lord in spite of his shortcomings. He had so much passion in spite of all his faults! Jesus was able to see through his faults, as he is able to do for us as well.

Jesus is willing to forgive. Was Peter - and are we - willing to be forgiven?

Throughout the forty days after Jesus' resurrection, he appeared to the disciples many times. We know that Peter would have had many opportunities to see Jesus and these would certainly have served to heal Peter's self inflicted wounds of denial. However, the greatest healing would come from the following appearance (Jesus' third to the disciples) on the Sea of Galilee:

John 21:3-19: (NRSV) (selected verses) ³Simon Peter said to them, I am going fishing. They said to him, We will go with you. They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

Simon Peter again leads the way, but this time it was back to their life before Jesus.

⁴Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus.

⁵Jesus said to them, Children, you have no fish, have you? They answered him, No. ⁶He said to



them, Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some. So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. ⁷That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, It is the Lord! When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea.

Simon is again unable to contain himself and he jumps into the sea to greet Jesus! So, they all came to shore and were gathered around Jesus.

John 21:15: (NRSV) When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you **love <agape>** me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I **love <phileo>** you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs."

The Question: Do you "agape" love me?

The Answer: You know that I "phileo" love you...

The Mission: "Feed my lambs." (the young, the beginners in the way needing the "milk of the word")

Peter thus states his personal attachment and devotion to the Lord, but refrains from claiming the highest love for which our Lord inquired. This humility was an excellent sign, showing Peter had learned a needed lesson and had ceased to boast and feared his own weakness.

This mission would only be given to one who is trusted, one who has been given a new name (from Simon to Peter).

John 21:16: (NRSV) A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you **love <agape>** me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I **love <phileo>** you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep."

The Question: Do you "agape" love me?

The Answer: You know that I "phileo" love you...

The Mission: "Tend my sheep." (the more mature followers who need guidance and direction)

This mission would only to be given to one who is trusted, one who has taken on a new vocation and direction.

John 21:17-19: (NRSV) ¹⁷He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you **love <agape>** me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you **love <agape>** me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I **love <phileo>** you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. ¹⁸Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." ¹⁹(He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."

The Question: Do you "agape" love me?

The Answer: You know everything, you know that I "phileo" love you...(Peter knows he can't go beyond where he is.)

The Mission: "Feed my sheep." (the weak sheep, weak in faith who are to be fed and cared for.)

This mission would only be given to one who could understand weakness and give what is necessary to overcome it. Peter would not make a confession he was not yet capable of, but Jesus was willing to work with him. (Note that Jesus asked him three times - just as Peter had denied him three times. Peter was also drawn to the Lord at three different times.)

What can we learn from Peter?
For Jonathan and Rick and Christian Questions...
Think about it...!