

# The Lesson from Peter's Denial

Mark 14:66-72



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## Introduction:

### I. PETER'S RENUNCIATION (vs. 66-71)

A. How many denials were there?

B. How many times did the rooster crow?

C. What happened to cause this failure?

- 1) Refusing to submit to the hard teachings of Scripture \_\_\_\_\_ .
- 2) Failing to deal with your pride \_\_\_\_\_ .
- 3) Letting yourself grow spiritually dull and distant from the Lord \_\_\_\_\_ .
- 4) Responding to problems in the flesh \_\_\_\_\_ .
- 5) An inflated self-confidence is just a cover-up for inner weakness and \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ .

### II. PETER'S REMORSE (vs. 72)

A. Repenting

B. Remembering

- 1) The first step is remembrance of God's Word.
- 2) That will produce conviction and godly sorrow over your sin.
- 3) In turn, that will produce a profound appreciation for God's abundant grace.
- 4) The result will be renewed dedication and service.

C. Returning

### III. PETER'S RETURN (John 21)

A. Peter starts to come back. (vs. 1-7)

B. Jesus encourages him back. (vs. 15-17)

- four Greek words for "love" (two used here):

*storge* =

*eros* =

*philea* =

*agape* =

- two Greek words for "knowledge" ("to know")

*oida* =

*ginosko* =

C. Peter comes back strong.

For you to hear the Lord's voice...

- 1) you must be in a place where He can speak to you
- 2) you must be ready to listen to what He says
- 3) you must be prepared to hear some hard things
- 4) you must be willing to make changes
- 5) you must keep your eyes fixed on Jesus alone

<sup>15</sup> So when they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love [*agapas*] Me more than these?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know [*oidas*] that I love [*philo*] You." He said to him, "Tend My lambs." <sup>16</sup> He said to him again a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love [*agapas*] Me?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know [*oidas*] that I love [*philo*] You." He said to him, "Shepherd My sheep." <sup>17</sup> He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love [*phileis*] Me?" Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, "Do you love [*phileis*] Me?" And he said to Him, "Lord, You know [*oidas*] all things; You know [*ginoskeis*] that I love [*philo*] You." Jesus said to him, "Tend My sheep."

#### Conclusion:

- 1) Take care how you respond to spiritual battle when you are tired physically.
- 2) When facing a trial, think ahead and prepare your answers. Beyond that, trust the Holy Spirit to lead you in your answers.
- 3) To do that, you need to be walking in the Spirit. This comes through daily reading of Scripture so that you grow in the mind of Christ thinking God's thoughts after Him.
- 4) The guiding light in this process (that you will bring you safely into the harbor) is the Lord Jesus Christ. Keep your eyes on Him.

#### Food for Thought:

- 1) What can be said positively about Peter from this passage? negatively?
- 2) In terms of application, what could be said of you as evidence that you've been "with Jesus the Nazarene"?
- 3) What do you know about "Galilean" characteristics that would have identified Peter?
- 4) Thinking ahead, what do you imagine Peter experienced between his miserable failure here and his sermon on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2)?