

# **INTRO: SHIFTING SAND**

A look into how the events of the original Palm Sunday, Good Friday, and Resurrection Day transformed the lives of the Disciples forever!

# **INTRO: SHIFTING SAND**

The Palm Sunday CROWD had their own assumptions about the Messiah, and they dismissed what God's Word said about the Messiah!

# **INTRO: SHIFTING SAND**

The Crowd had a "faith" like shifting sand... they went from "Hosanna!" to "Crucify Him!"

# **INTRO: SHIFTING SAND**

Peter was a LOT like the Palm Sunday crowd... his faith was up and down... he had his own ideas about what kind of Messiah Jesus should be. But he chose to build his life on the ROCK, and he was transformed!

**MATTHEW 16:13-23**

# I. PETER'S FAITH (MATT 16:13-23)

Who do PEOPLE say I am?

A variety of responses, which is what we would expect from a world that struggles with TRUTH.

# I. PETER'S FAITH (MATT 16:13-23)

Who do YOU say I am?

Peter's response - You are the  
MESSIAH, the Son of God!

# **I. PETER'S FAITH (MATT 16:13-23)**

Jesus KNOWS that Peter's faith is not fully formed... He knows Peter will deny Him. But He knows who Peter will become... and He calls him the ROCK.



# I. PETER'S FAITH (MATT 16:13-23)

Jesus corrects Peter's false assumptions about Messiah's role... here is God's Truth Peter! How does Peter respond? "Never Lord!"



**MATTHEW 26:69-75**

## **II. PETER'S DOUBT (MATT 26:69-75)**

Jesus knew about Peter's doubts and his failure... and **STILL** Jesus went to the Cross to die for Peter!

## **II. PETER'S DOUBT (MATT 26:69-75)**

Why would Jesus do this? He also knew that Peter would repent...

He knew about verses 69-74, but He also knew about verse 75!

## **II. PETER'S DOUBT (MATT 26:69-75)**

Peter is "cut to the heart" on a personal level (long before his words had that same effect on the Acts 2 crowd)... this is the moment of repentance!

## II. PETER'S DOUBT (MATT 26:69-75)



**ACTS 4:7-13**

# **III. PETER'S TRANSFORMATION (ACTS 4:7-13)**

We see a very different Peter here!



### **III. PETER'S TRANSFORMATION (ACTS 4:7-13)**

Only a couple of MONTHS have passed since Matthew 26... but Peter has been transformed in that time

### **III. PETER'S TRANSFORMATION (ACTS 4:7-13)**

Do you and I have the same opportunity to be transformed as Peter? Yes! We receive the same GRACE, the same PROMISE, and the same HOPE!

### **III. PETER'S TRANSFORMATION (ACTS 4:7-13)**

The Sanhedrin was astonished... and they saw that these men **HAD BEEN WITH JESUS!**

# **CONCLUSION: SOLID GROUND**

Many of us have this same personal experience of transformation that we saw in Peter

# **CONCLUSION: SOLID GROUND**

But there may also be many here today who can relate personally to Peter 1.0 (up and down faith)

# **CONCLUSION: SOLID GROUND**

Even when Simon (Peter) had faith like shifting sand, Jesus declares to him, "I tell you that **YOU ARE PETER**"

# **CONCLUSION: SOLID GROUND**

Jesus speaks TRUTH that is louder  
than Peter's DOUBTS

No guilt in life, no fear in death  
This is the power of Christ in me.  
From life's first cry to final breath  
Jesus **COMMANDS** my destiny.  
No power of hell, no scheme of man  
Can ever pluck me from His hand.  
'Til He returns or calls me home,  
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand!



# **CONCLUSION: SOLID GROUND**

The World will tell you some things about yourself... but what is Jesus **DECLARING** over you?

# **CONCLUSION: SOLID GROUND**

Peter started with a shaky faith... but he didn't remain there. And neither can we! We must build our lives on the Solid Ground of God's Promises!