

## ENCOUNTERS: PETER Pt. 2

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### I. THE ROAD TO DENIAL:

#### A. PETER WAS ROCK SOLID

1. Simons nick name “ROCK” Peter, was a credit to how solid and stable a person he was.
2. We view Peter backwards but until he denied knowing Jesus, that would not fit his character.
3. He was one of three closest to Christ (**Peter, James** and **John**).

#### B. IN DENIAL OF DENIAL

1. Peter rejected Jesus’ suggestion he would deny knowing him Peter answered,
  - a. “Though they all fall away because of you, I will never fall away.” **Matthew 26:33**
  - b. “Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you.” **Matthew 26:35**
  - c. We over what were capable and under estimate what’s below us, how low we would go.
2. Willing to die and willing to deny are two different temptations:
  - a. **John 18:10** Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest’s servant and cut off his right ear. (The servant’s name was Malchus).
  - b. **Matthew 26:55** “Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs to capture me?”
  - c. Peter drew a sword against an armed mob.
  - d. It’s easy to fight for what you love than it is to love what you think you lost.

### II. PETER DENIES JESUS

#### A. SHOPPING ON DENIAL ILSE 3

1. **Luke 26:69-75** Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. And a servant girl came up to him and said, “You also were with Jesus the Galilean.” <sup>70</sup> But he denied it before them all, saying, “I do not know what you mean.” <sup>71</sup> And when he went out to the entrance, another servant girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders, “This man was with Jesus of Nazareth.” <sup>72</sup> And again he denied it with an oath: “I do not know the man.” <sup>73</sup> After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, “Certainly you too are one of them, for your accent betrays you.” <sup>74</sup> Then he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear, “I do not know the man.” And immediately the rooster crowed. <sup>75</sup> And Peter remembered the saying of Jesus, “Before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times.” **And he went out and wept bitterly.**
  - a. No one can read this passage without being struck with the staggering honesty of the New Testament. If ever there was an incident which one might have expected to be hushed up, this was it—and yet here it is told in all its stark shame.<sup>1</sup>
  - b. But Peter’s second denial had given him away. From his speech, it was clear that he was a Galilaean. The Galilaean spoke with a burr; so ugly was their accent that no Galilaean was allowed to pronounce the benediction at a synagogue service.<sup>2</sup>
2. **Luke 12:9-10** but the one who denies me before men will be denied before the angels of God. <sup>10</sup> And everyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but the one who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven.

<sup>1</sup> William Barclay, *The Gospel of Matthew*, Third Ed., The New Daily Study Bible (Edinburgh: Saint Andrew Press, 2001), 403.

<sup>2</sup> William Barclay, *The Gospel of Matthew*, Third Ed., The New Daily Study Bible (Edinburgh: Saint Andrew Press, 2001), 404.

3. **LUKE 22:31-32** “Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you, that he might sift you like wheat, <sup>32</sup> but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned again, strengthen your brothers.”
  - a. When we were strong we make promises, we may not keep.
  - b. When we were weak, Jesus draws our attention to the fact that “I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail.”

### III. PETER DISCOVERS JESUS (**JOHN 21:1-14**)

#### A. Back to the Beginning:

1. When we blow it, God goes back to the beginning with breakfast.
  - a. A meal with a man makes progress other settings can't.
  - b. Jesus doesn't show up right away, but he shows up.
2. Everything that happens here harkens to where Peter and Jesus began together
  - a. Go out on the boat and cast your nets.
  - b. A miraculous catch (**Luke 5:4** cf. **John 21:6**)
  - c. Peter falls down and says “Be gone from me, I'm a sinful man.”
  - d. In the beginning Peter knows it, afraid of disappointing.
  - e. In the end of the story Peter shows it.
  - f. Jesus will even ask him to do the one thing they began with “Follow Me” **Jn 21:19, 22**
  - g. “Follow me” (**19** and **22**) is the language of discipleship (**John 1:37, 43, 10:27, 12:26; Rev 14:4; Mark 1:18, 2:14; etc.**). If we are right in thinking that much of **Luke 5:1–11** is a parallel of **John 21**.
3. **What this means to us:** Is that whenever you lose your way, go back to the beginning. It's where the connection of Jesus was purists. (I revisit places that changed my life all the time).
  - a. **When you've lost your way or gone astray, go back to the place you started and you will find Jesus waiting there for you.**
  - b. **The way it started was the way he wanted it to end anyway, following him.**

### IV. JESUS DISCLOSES PETER

#### A. Three denials three challenges

1. Peter boasted at the last Supper of a love above the other 11 disciples.
2. This is a humbling moment since John lived out when Peter shouted out.
3. Jesus asked three times if he loves him. Three questions for three denials.
4. **Do you Agape me, you know I phileo you..... Do you Phileo me, you know I phileo you...**
5. **Peter was hurt because he asked a third time** (Notice that Jesus doesn't apologize).
6. **JESUS DOESN'T APOLOGIZE FOR MAKING US UNCOMFORTABLE WITH OUR SIN.**
7. Dragging out the conversation three times shows Jesus is in no rush to make him feel comfortable about it.

#### B. Stop worrying about other

1. Peter asks “**What about Him,**” John, the one who didn't fail where he did.
2. Jesus said to him, “If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you? You follow me!”
3. **If your attention is on what others do, think, feel you missed the point. Your walk is your walk. Your sin is your sin, your repentance is your repentance and your calling is yours.**

### V. CONCLUSION