



Worship Service  
March 8, 2020  
Pastor Bruce Adrian

## The Passion of Christ

Lesson Five • Matthew 26:31-35, 69-75

### The Fall and Rise of Peter

#### Before the Rooster Crows

Peter's failure to stand firm is a **WARNING** about misplaced confidence in self rather than Jesus Christ.

*Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall. Proverbs 16:18*

*Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. 1Corinthians 10:12*

#### Three-Act Drama of Peter's Fall and Rise

### Act I: Peter **DENIES** Jesus Repeatedly! Vs. 69-74

#### Jesus Calls It

- Jesus warns Peter what he can't **SEE**. Vs. 31-32

*"Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you, that he might sift you like wheat, but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail. And when you have returned to Me, strengthen your brothers." Luke 22:31-32*

- Peter boasts what he shouldn't **SAY**. Vs. 33-35

#### Peter Blows It

- Peter denies Jesus with a **LIE**: "I do not know what you mean." Vs. 70
- Peter denies Jesus with an **OATH**: "I do not know the Man." Vs. 72
- Peter denies Jesus with a **CURSE**: "I do not know the Man." Vs. 74

### Act II: Peter **REMEMBERS** Jesus' Words Bitterly! Vs. 75

#### Rooster's Crow and Peter's Tears

- The rooster's **CROW** prompts Peter's memory of Jesus' words.
- Peter's **TEARS** result in his repentance of sin and return to Jesus.

*For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death. 2Corinthians 7:10*

### Act III: Jesus **RESTORES** Peter Graciously!

*When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love Me more than these?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love You." He said to him, "Feed My lambs." He said to him a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love Me?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Tend My sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love Me?" Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, "Do you love Me?" and he said to Him, "Lord, You know everything; You know that I love You." Jesus said to him, "Feed My sheep." John 21:15-17*

#### There's Always Hope for the Fallen

Because of the Cross, **FORGIVEN**, not **FAILURE** defines the Christian who repents of sin and returns to Jesus.

If God can forgive Peter, He can forgive anybody.  
And if Peter can get back up again, anybody can get back up again if you will repent and return to Jesus.