

Fellowship Baptist Church, April 2, 2017, AM

Message: "Peter, From Denial to Confession" --John 18:27 (v. 15-18; 25-27)

INTRODUCTION: Peter is a good example of a believer who fails but is restored to service. Peter made some tremendous mistakes, but did not let them keep him down. Peter went from denying the Lord three times to being greatly used of the Lord. We can learn from Peter's experience.

I. Peter's road to denying the Lord:

A. The things which lead up to the denial.

1. A lack of understanding spiritual truth—John 13:6-10 (Matt. 16:22-23).
2. An unhealthy interest in the failures of others--John 13:21-25 (John 21:21).
3. An attitude of pride and arrogance—John 13:36-38  
(Prov. 16:18; 17:19; 29:23).
4. A tendency to rely on the ability of the flesh—John 18:10-11.

B. The three denials.

1. To the damsel at the door—v. John 18:17.
  - a. Her question, "You aren't one of his disciple, are you?"
  - b. Peter's answer, "No I am not."  
(This answer was just agreeing with her.)
2. To the servant by the fire—John 18:25 (Mark 14:68)
3. To the servant of the High Priest—John 18:26 (Mark 14:70-71)

II. Peter's road to confessing the Lord:

A. Conviction of wrong doing:

1. Brought about by the look of Jesus—Luke 22:60-62  
(Jesus turned and looked—Looked means to fix the eyes on.)
2. Brought about by the word of God. "Remembered the words of the Lord"

B. Repentance— "wept bitterly" (II Cor. 7:9-10)

C. Service—Luke 22:31-32

1. Peter's great sermon in Acts 2:14-42 (3,000 saved).
2. Peter's sermon to Cornelius in Acts 10 (Peter the Apostle to the Jews).
3. Peter wrote I & II Peter.

CONCLUSION: Peter denied our Lord three times. He repented and was greatly used of God. When you fail in your Christian life don't let it destroy you. Repent and turn back to God. He is gracious and merciful.