

First Peter – Then and Now

(Lesson 1 – The Training of Peter)

Introduction

- A. Andrew, Peter’s brother, heard the message of John the Baptist (Jn 1:29), spent some time with the Lord Jesus and then brought Peter to Him (Jn 1:35-42).
- B. Peter was at the wedding in Cana, and perhaps had other contacts with the Lord Jesus as he continued his trade. We’re not sure when he chose to believe. The following four incidents in Peter’s life summarize major lessons of his training to be a believer and apostle.

I. Peter’s Call to Active Discipleship. (Luke 5:1-11)

When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch." Simon answered, "Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets." When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break....When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus' knees and said, "Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!" Then Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be afraid; from now on you will catch men."

What lessons did Peter need to learn? _____

How do these lessons apply to us? _____

II. Peter’s Experience of Walking on Water. (Matthew 14:28-31)

"Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water." "Come," he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!" Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?"

What lessons did Peter need to learn? _____

How do these lessons apply to us? _____

III. Peter's Denial of the Lord Jesus. (Luke 22:31-34, 59-61)

"Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift you as wheat. But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers."

But he replied, "Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death." Jesus answered, "I tell you, Peter, before the rooster crows today, you will deny three times that you know me."

About an hour later another asserted, "Certainly this fellow was with him, for he is a Galilean." Peter replied, "Man, I don't know what you're talking about!" Just as he was speaking, the rooster crowed. The Lord turned and looked straight at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word the Lord had spoken to him: "Before the rooster crows today, you will disown me three times." And he went outside and wept bitterly.

What lessons did Peter need to learn?

How do these lessons apply to us? _____

IV. Peter's Visit to the House of Cornelius. (Acts 10:15,28,29,38,44)

The voice spoke to him a second time, "Do not call anything impure that God has made clean."... He said to them: "You are well aware that it is against our law for a Jew to associate with a Gentile or visit him. But God has shown me that I should not call any man impure or unclean. So when I was sent for, I came without raising any objection. May I ask why you sent for me?"... God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him.... While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message.

What lessons did Peter need to learn? _____

How do these lessons apply to us? _____
