**LEARNING A LESSON**

**John 18:15-18**

**15 And Simon Peter followed Jesus, and *so did* another disciple: that disciple was known unto the high priest, and went in with Jesus into the palace of the high priest.**

**16 But Peter stood at the door without. Then went out that other disciple, which was known unto the high priest, and spake unto her that kept the door, and brought in Peter.**

**17 Then saith the damsel that kept the door unto Peter, Art not thou also *one* of this man's disciples? He saith, I am not.**

**18 And the servants and officers stood there, who had made a fire of coals; for it was cold: and they warmed themselves: and Peter stood with them, and warmed himself.**

**INTRO:**

**1. Notice verse 16. “But Peter stood at the door without.”**

**Illustration:**

**The moon shines in the night sky because it reflects the light from the sun. Without the sun, the moon would not have light to reflect; therefore, the moon would be lost in the darkness of space.**

**We as believers can only shine because of the reflection of Christ’s light in our lives. If we stand in the door without like Peter did, we too will soon become lost in the darkness of the world and sin.**

**2. Many times some of us only learn life’s lessons by failing, making mistakes, or falling into sin. That is certainly true of Peter. He only seemed to learn after quickly reacting and then failing and seeing his mistake.**

**3. Somebody once said, “Christian failure is seldom a blowout; instead, it is usually a slow leak.”**

**\*\*So let’s see how Peter Learned a Lesson and the things He learned so that we may learn a lesson as well.**

**I. PETER LEARNED A LESSON ABOUT SATAN**

**Luke 22:31 And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired *to have* you, that he may sift *you* as wheat:**

**A. Learn about Satan’s Desire**

**“Satan hath desired *to have* you,”**

**\*\*The Lord cannot have your soul . . .**

**1. If Satan has your Thoughts**

**2. If Satan has your Temperament**

**(Your perspective, position, personality)**

**3. If Satan has your Time**

**\*\*Too many are pretending to worship while the majority of their time is spent on worldliness and wickedness!**

**4. If Satan has your Tithes**

**\*\*Every time the plate goes by and your tithes don’t go in, then Satan is getting your tithes!!**

**\*\* Evidently some poor Christian people (but good Christian people) only make $520 a year. That means they make $10 a week because they only give a $1 a Sunday for their tithes. ☺**

**\*\*Satan desires to have your thoughts, your temperament, your time, and your tithes because if he does, then God will not have your soul!**

**B. Learn About Satan’s Destruction**

**“that he may sift *you* as wheat:”**

**\*\*Into your life He will dig, drill, drive, drain, depress, and destroy until he takes out all the good and all the glory of Christ out of your life!**

**C. Learn About Satan’s Defeat**

**Luke 22:32 But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not:**

**\*\*Catch this: We pray in Jesus’ name to the Father, and Jesus intercedes or prays for us to the Father.**

**1. Jesus prays to the Father about our Failures and Satan is defeated!!**

**2. Jesus prays to the Father about our Faith and Satan is defeated!!**

**\*\* All the polls are in, and in a match-up between me and Satan, I lose every time!! But in a match-up between my Savior and Satan, my Savior wins every time!!**

**\*\* That’s why I want the Lord Jesus to represent me and why I make Him Lord of my life!!**

**II. PETER LEARNED A LESSON ABOUT SIMON**

**\*\*Like a lot of us, Peter seemed to only learn his lessons by overreacting and messing up again and again.**

**A. The Warped Perspective**

**Mark 8:31-33 31And he began to teach them, that the Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected of the elders, and *of* the chief priests, and scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.** [**32**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Mark-8-32/)**And he spake that saying openly. And Peter took him, and began to rebuke him.** [**33**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Mark-8-33/) **But when he had turned about and looked on his disciples, he rebuked Peter, saying, Get thee behind me, Satan: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but the things that be of men.**

**1. Peter Caught the Lord to Stop Him**

**2. Peter Criticized the Lord to Scold Him**

**\*\*Peter tried to straighten-out the Lord because he did not like the outcome for his Savior nor the odds for himself.**

**\*\*A lot of us need to learn a lesson about when to speak and when to spew! There is a time to speak up, but there is also a time to “study to be quiet and to do your own business!” (I Thessalonians 4:11)**

**B. The Wrong Perception**

**Mark 9:4-6 [4](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Mark-9-4/" \o "View more info for Mark 9:4) And there appeared unto them Elias with Moses: and they were talking with Jesus.** [**5**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Mark-9-5/)**And Peter answered and said to Jesus, Master, it is good for us to be here: and let us make three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias.** [**6**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Mark-9-6/)**For he wist not what to say; for they were sore afraid.**

**\*\*Peter tried to put Elias and Moses on the same level as the Lord! I’ve seen others do this with their favorites.**

**\*\* Here is a lesson to learn. There is not a Pope, a Pastor, a Preacher, a Potentate, a Papa, a Pawpaw, nor a Person that is on the same level as the Lord!**

**\*\*We need to learn the lesson that we can honor those who have lived and done things for the church, but the church is to be a place that is Sacred unto the Lord and not a Shrine unto the Laborers.**

**C. The Wicked Pride**

**Mark 14:27, 29-30 [27](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Mark-14-27/" \o "View more info for Mark 14:27)And Jesus saith unto them, All ye shall be offended because of me . . .** [**29**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Mark-14-29/)**But Peter said unto him, Although all shall be offended, yet *will* not I.** [**30**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Mark-14-30/)**And Jesus saith unto him, Verily I say unto thee, That this day, *even* in this night, before the cock crow twice, thou shalt deny me thrice.**

**1. Learn that Pride comes before a Failure.**

**2. Learn that Pride comes before a Fall.**

**D. The Weak Praying**

**Mark 14:35, 37-38 [35](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Mark-14-35/" \o "View more info for Mark 14:35)And he went forward a little, and fell on the ground, and prayed . . .** [**37**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Mark-14-37/) **And he cometh, and findeth them sleeping, and saith unto Peter, Simon, sleepest thou? couldest not thou watch one hour?** [**38**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Mark-14-38/) **Watch ye and pray, lest ye enter into temptation. The spirit truly *is* ready, but the flesh *is* weak.**

**1. We need to Learn to Pray Daily**

**2. We need to Learn to Pray Deliberately**

**a. Be deliberately Sincere when praying.**

**b. Be deliberately Serious when praying.**

**c. Be deliberately Spiritual when praying.**

**E. The Worldly Plummet**

**Mark 14:70-72 . . . they that stood by said again to Peter, Surely thou art *one* of them: for thou art a Galilaean, and thy speech agreeth *thereto*.** [**71**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Mark-14-71/)**But he began to curse and to swear, *saying*, I know not this man of whom ye speak.**

[**72**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Mark-14-72/)**And the second time the cock crew. And Peter called to mind the word that Jesus said unto him, Before the cock crow twice, thou shalt deny me thrice. And when he thought thereon, he wept.**

**1. Sin brings out the Worse (V-71)**

**2. Sin brings out the Weeping (V-72)**

**\*\*We need to learn a lesson from Simon!!**

**III. PETER LEARNED A LESSON ABOUT SALVATION**

**\*\*By the way, I still believe the Lord is Salvation!**

**\*\*Salvation taught Peter something about . . .**

**A. The Persuasive Watch**

**Luke 22:61** [**61**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Luke-22-61/) **And the Lord turned, and looked upon Peter. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord,**

**1. Peter understood the Lord’s Look**

**2. Peter understood the Lord’s Lesson**

**Illustration: How many ever got that look from your Momma or Dad, and without a word spoken you knew you were to stop what you were doing and that you were in trouble? That was the persuasive watch that Peter got, and he knew exactly what it meant.**

**B. The Powerful Word**

**1. The Lord’s Word made Peter Remember**

**Luke 22:61b And Peter remembered the word of the Lord,**

**2. The Lord’s Word made Peter Remorseful**

**Luke 22:62 And Peter went out, and wept bitterly.**

**C. The Prayers Working**

**1. Prayers is what it took for Peter to get Right!**

**2. Prayers is what it took for Peter to get Released!**

**\*\*In Acts 12, the church prayed, and Peter got released from prison! By the way, prayer still works!!**

**D. The Passionate Witness**

**Acts 1:** [**15**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Acts-1-15/)**And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples, and said . . .** [**16**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Acts-1-16/)**Men *and* brethren, this scripture must needs have been fulfilled, which the Holy Ghost by the mouth of David spake . . .**

**1. Peter became a Faithful Preacher**

**2. Peter became a Fireball Preacher**

**CLOSE**

**1. Peter had to learn a lesson about Satan, about himself, and about the Lord and salvation, and it took some time.**

**2. However, I believe that Peter learned his lesson because you never read about Peter messing up in any of the books after the four gospels.**

**3. I can just imagine what it was like having Peter around when he and the other disciples were traveling together.**

**a. Every time he started to speak, they probably said, “Oh my, what is he going to do now?”**

**b. He was one of those Christians you loved, but boy, you either cringed or laughed or both when he reacted to whatever was going on.**

**c. Peter’s reactions were either all right or all wrong.**

**4. Two things about that . . .**

**a. There’s not a one of us here that got it all right every time and in every way so we shouldn’t expect others to do so either. Be patient with other Christians and young Christians while they are learning their lesson because the Lord sure was patient with me and you.**

**b. Take a good look at yourself and at your soul. Are there lessons you need to learn? Perhaps some of the lessons you need to learn are the same lessons Peter had to learn. So don’t Live Peter’s Lessons or anybody else’s lessons, Look and Learn from Peter’s Lessons and from others.**

**\*\*That’s why we study God’s word so that we can learn a lesson without living the lesson and end up without!**

**5. Have you learned some lessons in life? Have you surrendered to the Lord and told Him you’ve learned your lesson? If not, why not come and pray now?**