

May 5, 2024 - Sunday a.m.

**“Avoiding a Set-up for a Down-fall”
(The Peter Series, Part 4)**

1. Peter’s _____ Seems to have Set Him Up

Luke 22:24-27 NLT

²⁴ Then they began to argue among themselves about who would be the greatest among them.

²⁵ Jesus told them, “In this world the kings and great men lord it over their people, yet they are called ‘friends of the people.’

²⁶ But among you it will be different. Those who are the greatest among you should take the lowest rank, and the leader should be like a servant.

²⁷ Who is more important, the one who sits at the table or the one who serves? The one who sits at the table, of course. But not here! For I am among you as one who serves.

Luke 22:31 NKJ

And the Lord said, “Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat.

Luke 22:32 KJV

But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.

Luke 22:32b NLT

...So when you have repented and turned to me again, strengthen your brothers.”

James 5:19-20 NKJ

¹⁹ Brethren, if anyone among you wanders from the truth, and someone turns him back,

²⁰ let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save a soul from death and cover a multitude of sins.

Luke 22:32 - Peter, when you have repented and turned to me again...”

2 Peter 2:20-22 NKJ

²⁰ For if, after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the latter end is worse for them than the beginning.

²¹ For it would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered to them.

²² But it has happened to them according to the true proverb: “A dog returns to his own vomit,” and, “a sow, having washed, to her wallowing in the mire.”

1 Corinthians 10:12 NKJ

Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall.

Luke 22:33 NLT

Peter said, "Lord, I am ready to go to prison with you, and even to die with you."

Mark 14:29-31 NLT

²⁹ *Peter said to him, "Even if everyone else deserts you, I never will."*

³⁰ *Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, Peter—this very night, before the rooster crows twice, you will deny three times that you even know me."*

³¹ *"No!" Peter declared emphatically. "Even if I have to die with you, I will never deny you!" And all the others vowed the same.*

2. Peter's _____ was Allowed to Dominate

Luke 22:47-49 NLT

⁴⁷ *But even as Jesus said this, a crowd approached, led by Judas, one of the twelve disciples. Judas walked over to Jesus to greet him with a kiss.*

⁴⁸ *But Jesus said, "Judas, would you betray the Son of Man with a kiss?"*

⁴⁹ *When the other disciples saw what was about to happen, they exclaimed, "Lord, should we fight? We brought the swords!"*

"Just because we _____ do something, does not mean that we *SHOULD* do it!"

John 18:10 NLT

Then Simon Peter drew a sword (large knife—hunting knife) and slashed off the right ear of Malchus, the high priest's slave.

3. Peter's Following Became _____

Luke 22:54 NKJ

Having arrested Him, they led Him and brought Him into the high priest's house. But Peter followed at a distance.

"Close the _____!"

4. Peter's Fellowship Became _____

Luke 22:55 NLT

The guards lit a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat around it, and Peter joined them there.

Luke 22:56-57 NLT

⁵⁶ *A servant girl noticed him (Peter) in the firelight and began staring at him. Finally she said, "This man was one of Jesus' followers!"*

⁵⁷ *But Peter denied it. "Woman," he said, "I don't even know him!"*

Compromise is very often a _____ which happens very gradually!

5. Peter's Downward Progression Became Peter's _____

Luke 22:58-60a NLT

⁵⁸ *After a while someone else looked at him and said, "You must be one of them!" "No, man, I'm not!" Peter retorted.*

⁵⁹ *About an hour later someone else insisted, "This must be one of them, because he is a Galilean, too."*

⁶⁰ *But Peter said, "Man, I don't know what you are talking about."...*

Matthew 26:73-74 NKJ

⁷³ *And a little later those who stood by came up and said to Peter, "Surely you also are one of them, for your speech betrays you."*

⁷⁴ *Then he began to curse and swear, saying, "I do not know the Man!" Immediately a rooster crowed.*

Luke 22:60b-62 NKJ

⁶⁰ *... Immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed.*

⁶¹ *And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how He had said to him, "Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times."*

⁶² *So Peter went out and wept bitterly.*

Peter's down-fall was not Peter's end, but he had to use the turn-around _____ that Jesus had given him.

Philippians 3:13b-14 NKJ

¹³ *... forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead,*

¹⁴ *I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.*