



DR. JOE K. TAYLOR, SENIOR PASTOR, SOUTH RENO BAPTIST CHURCH, RENO, NV • APRIL 2, 2017
All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. • Pastor Joe email address is joe@southreno.com.
You can find this text in your Pew Bible on pages 939.

A Little History About Peter

- Peter's name means "a rock" (Gk: Πέτρος)
- Peter was a commercial fisherman from the city of Capernaum.
- It was Peter's boat that Jesus used to catch a great quantity of fish.
- Peter became one of Jesus' three best friends.
- Peter (with James and John) witnessed some of Jesus' greatest miracles.
- Peter was a disciple of Jesus Christ—one of the twelve.
- Peter stepped out of a boat to walk on the water to Jesus.
- Peter was the first to declare that Jesus was divine.
- Peter hacked off an official's ear during the arrest of Jesus.
- Peter preached at Pentecost.
- In his writings to the early church, Peter told the believers to expect suffering.
- The church historian, Eusebius, said that Nero blamed Peter for burning Jerusalem in 60 AD, which ultimately, cost him his life.
- The church historian, Origen, offered this report: "Peter was crucified at Rome with his head downward, as he himself had desired to suffer."

Peter is most famous not for his devotion to Christ, but of his failure of Christ!

- While Jesus was being tried for blasphemy, Peter waited outside Caiaphas' house and denied even knowing Him.
- Sitting around a fire, three times someone asked Peter if he was one of Jesus' disciples—every time he denied it.
- With the third denial, a rooster crowed as Jesus predicted at the Last Supper and Peter suddenly realized the prophecy had been fulfilled—and Peter, fully aware he had failed the Son of God, ran off and "wept bitterly" (Luke 22:62).

Here's Hope For Those Who Have Failed God

Mark 16:7

1. Failure _____ be hidden from a risen Savior's sight.

A. Jesus noticed Peter's failure before it happened.

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!"

B. Jesus noticed Peter's failure when it happened.

Luke 22:61, NLT -⁶¹ At that moment the Lord turned and looked at Peter. Suddenly, the Lord's words flashed through Peter's mind: "Before the rooster crows...you will deny three times that you even know me."

C. Jesus noticed Peter's failure after it happened.

Mark 16:7, NLT -⁷ Now go and tell his disciples, including Peter, that Jesus is going ahead of you to Galilee. You will see him there, just as he told you before he died."

2. Failure _____ separate us from a risen Savior's sympathy.

Luke 24:33–35, NASB95 -³³ And they got up that very hour and returned to Jerusalem, and found gathered together the eleven and those who were with them, ³⁴ saying, "The Lord has really risen and has appeared to Peter." ³⁵ They began to relate their experiences on the road and how He was recognized by them in the breaking of the bread.

3. Failure _____ exclude us from a risen Savior's service.

John 21:17, NIV84 -¹⁷ The third time he said to him, "Simon (Peter) son of John, do you love me?" Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my sheep."

Application: "God uses our failure to teach us and to teach through us."

Our Risen Savior Offers Hope to all who have failed Him!

Answers to the Sermon:

Here's Hope For Those Who Have
Failed God

1. Cannot
2. Cannot
3. Cannot