

Life Even After: Peter

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Scripture: Matthew 16:13-20, Luke 22, John 18, Matthew 26:75, Mark 14:72, John 21, Luke 5, John 21:9

Buildings are not the only thing that implode. People's lives also implode (marriage, career, hobby). People watch an implosion, because it is a spectacle. There is a lot of rubble. People may not be around to encourage you and dig you out, but when there is an implosion they will be there to help cover you up with dirt. **The same with Peter. He saw his world implode because of failure. Even those that are the closest to the Lord will blow it.**

- *Peter was the leader of the disciples.*
- *Jesus knows what that weakness is that He wants to use to get inside of you to implode you.*
- *Satan can only do what he has been permitted to do.*

God has given everyone that is saved a testimony, and that testimony is not for you. It is for others, and God wants us to share it with others that will be going through the same stuff.

God is writing every one of us a unique story, and he is writing not just for you, but for others, and he wants you to share it to encourage them.

You might ask, "How will I know that they are going through the same thing?" Well, if God is your Lord, and He created the world in 6 days, and if it is God who puts the planets into orbit, and takes note of every hair on your head, and knows every cell in your body, don't you think He can line up your life with others that match up? He will book the meeting, you just need to be faithful and show up.

If God has placed a desire in your heart, then he expects you to pursue what that dream is. It is not selfish, and it is not arrogant to follow the passion that God has placed in your heart.

We always need to be open to what God wants to do, and where He wants to take us, but gives us passions and desires, but realize that if you have those passions and desires then, and they are used to honor the Lord, then know that they came from the Lord.

- *Isn't it good to know that even before you messed up or blown it, God is saying that there is life even after failure?*
- *Satan knows your pride. He knows you better than you know your own self.*

Peter denied 3 times. The third time, one of the versions said he even cursed. Before that, he was probably saying he didn't curse either, but placed in the right situation...

After his third time of denying, the rooster crowed, and don't forget that God will allow your life to implode to prove to you that you are not who you think you are.

- ***How have you responded to your failure?***

(Luke 22:62) He was sorry; Peter wept bitterly.

(John 21) He was quitting the ministry. Peter said, "I'm going fishing. I'm going back to my old job."

Peter and Thomas went fishing, and saw Jesus on the beach, but they didn't know it was him. Jesus asked if they had any fish and they said no, so He said cast your net on the right side of the boat. When they did, the net was full. When Peter heard that it was the Lord he put on his outer garment and jumped in, and went toward Jesus.

Jesus is cooking breakfast on the charcoal fire before the fish are brought in. He is going to take him back to the place of his failure. Not to rub his nose in it, but to let him know that you cannot get too big or proud for your britches.

Jesus wants to give Peter another chance, but He has to take him back to the charcoal fire. Many want to go forward and not deal with the charcoal fire, but He says we are not going to skip it. We cannot go forward just sweeping our failure under the rug. We have to get honest about it, and deal with it, before God can take us forward.

Quit allowing failure to be final. When you have been taken through the accusations of Satan and beaten down, God has a way of resurrecting you and using you for His glory, and even if you are in the mud, don't forget that.

There is life even after failure.