

WHERE PETER MISSED THE BOAT  
(HOW HE BEGAN TO FALL INTO DENIAL OF CHRIST)

INTRODUCTION: THE HEIGHTS OF THE MOUNT OF CONFESSION AT CAES-PHIL  
TO THE DEPTHS OF DENIAL IN JERUSALEM.

I. SEEKING TO SHUN THE CROSS, MARK 8:32

- A. CLOTHED IN A PATRONIZING ATTITUDE OF PITY TOWARD JESUS,  
AS THOUGH HE WERE MISTAKEN AND DISCOURAGED.
- B. THE SHARP REBUKE WAS A SHOCK TO PETER'S SELF-ESTEEM  
AND SENSE OF IMPORTANCE.

II. BLUNDERING ON THE MOUNT OF TRANSFIGURATION, MK. 9:5

- A. BEGINNING OF COMPARATIVE RELIGIONS
- B. FAILURE TO LISTEN TO JESUS, V.7
- C. POWERLESS FOR SERVICE IN THE VALLEY, V.18

III. CONTENTION ABOUT GREATNESS, MK. 9:34

- A. VICTIMS OF ECCLESIASTICAL JEALOUSY & RIVALRY.
- B. THE WAY UP IS DOWN.

IV. EMPHASIZING HIS "SACRIFICE" FOR CHRIST, MK. 10:28,

"LO, WE HAVE LEFT EVERYTHING, AND FOLLOWED YOU;  
WHAT SHALL WE HAVE THEREFORE?"

- A. WE SHOULD NEVER COMPLAIN OR BOAST ABOUT SACRIFICE FOR CHRIST.
- B. GOD ALWAYS RETURNS A HUNDREDFOLD ALL WE LEAVE FOR HIM.

Mk. 11:21.

V. SURPRISE AT THE POWER OF CHRIST IN THE WITHERING OF THE FIG TREE,

A. INDICATES LACK OF FAITH

- B. PETER'S GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT HAS DEFINITELY BEEN ARRESTED.

VI. OVER-CONFIDENCE IN HIS OWN ABILITY TO REMAIN TRUE TO CHRIST, 14:29

A. MANIFESTATION OF SELF-CENTERED CONFIDENCE.

1. HE IS BOASTFUL IN THE PLACE OF PERIL

2. THIS SEEMS LIKE GRAND-STAND HEROICS.

B. HE PUTS HIMSELF IN CONTRAST WITH HIS BRETHREN.

C. IT REFLECTS ON THE CORRECT ESTIMATE OF THE LORD.

HE THINKS HE KNOWS BETTER THAN THE LORD.

VII. FAILURE IN THE DEVOTIONAL LIFE, MK. 14:37.

A. ASLEEP WHEN CHRIST ASKED HIM TO STAY AWAKE AND PRAY WITH HIM  
IN THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE.

B. BACKSLIDING WILL ALWAYS BE ACCOMPANIED WITH FAILURE IN THE  
DEVOTIONAL LIFE OF PRAYER AND BIBLE STUDY.

VIII. AN ATTEMPT TO MAKE UP IN ZEAL AND OUTWARD SERVICE, FOR WHAT  
IS LACKING IN PRIVATE AND PERSONAL DEVOTION, V.47.

A. ZEAL WITHOUT KNOWLEDGE.

B. HE HAD NO RIGHT TO TAKE OUT THE SWORD WITHOUT HIS LORD'S COMMAND

C. HE WAS NERVOUS, JUMPY, UNEASY, CONVICTED, AND FEVERISH,  
BECAUSE HE HAD LOST THE QUIET CALM AND PEACE OF AN  
OBEDIENT AND TRUSTFUL SOUL.

D. THE MOMENT YOU FEEL IT NECESSARY TO PROVE YOUR LOYALTY,  
THERE IS SOMETHING WRONG SOMEWHERE.

IX. HE WAS ANNOYED, OFFENDED, AND ANGRY AT THE REBUKE JESUS  
GAVE HIM FOR THIS RASH ACT. *Mt. 26: 51-54*

A. HE FELT HIS COURAGEOUS SERVICE WAS UNAPPRECIATED

B. MANY BACKSLIDED CHRISTIANS ARE EASILY OFFENDED

X. HE RESIGNS, STEPS OUT OF THE PICTURE, AND  
FOLLOWS JESUS ONLY AFAR OFF, V. 54

A. HOW TYPICAL OF CHURCH MEMBERS WHO OFFER HURRIED RESIGNATIONS.

B. JOHN, WHO HAD GONE ON INTO THE AUDIENCE CHAMBER, AND  
REMAINED CLOSEST TO THE LORD, WAS NOT MOLESTED AND DID NOT FALL

C. IN THE PLACE OF COMPROMISE ~~---~~  
NEITHER IN THE TRIAL CHAMBER  
NOR IN THE STREET OR CITY OUTSIDE.

XI. HE WARMS HIMSELF AT THE ENEMIES FIRE, V. 54.

A. HE HAD SEVERED ALL CONNECTIONS WITH THE PEOPLE OF GOD.

B. ATTEMPTING TO GET COMFORT AND SOME EMOTIONAL WARMTH  
WHERE THE WORLD IS GETTING IT.

XIII. FINALLY, OPEN AND BLASPHEMOUS DENIAL OF CHRIST, MK. 14:66-71.

#### CONCLUSION:

1. THE PLACE OF CONFESSION IS THE PLACE OF OPPORTUNITY  
AND RESPONSIBILITY.

2. TO REFUSE TO FOLLOW CHRIST WHEN HE PRESENTS THE CROSS TO YOU  
IS ULTIMATELY TO COME TO THE PLACE OF OPEN AND DEFINITE DENIAL

*newcomb B.C. 10/22/85*

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