

**Today's Order of Worship**

Announcements: Greg Lowery

Song Leader: Billy Box

Opening Prayer: David Key

On the Table: Head - Josh Berryhill  
Servers - Gary Addison  
Greg Lowery  
Eddy Dickinson

Closing Prayer: Ralph Burleson

Preparing the Lord's Supper Linda Lawrence

**Weekly Service Times**

Sunday

Bible Study 10:00 am  
Morning Worship 10:45 am  
Evening Worship 5:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Study 7:00 pm

**Visit Our Website**

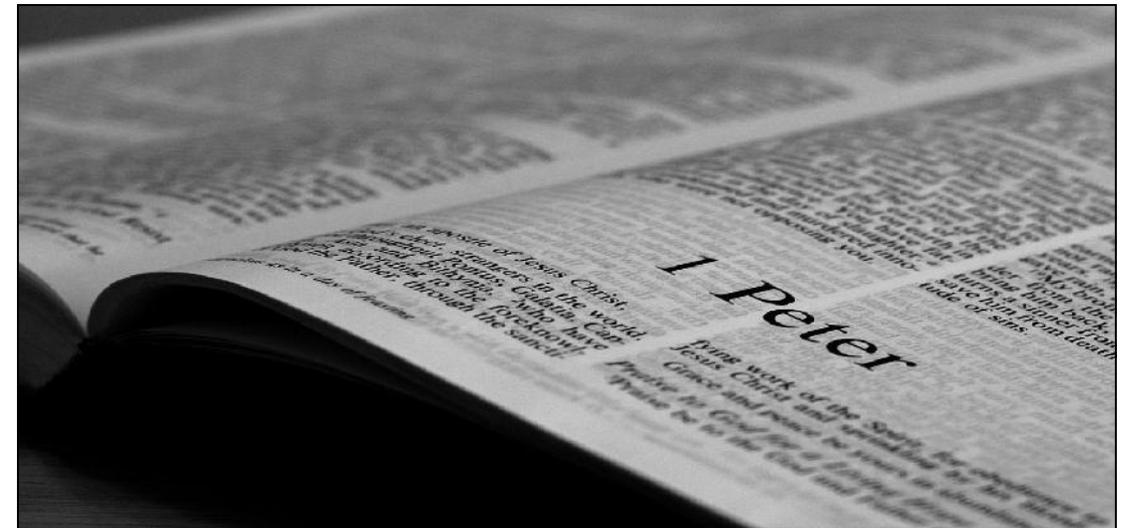
[www.brilliantchurchofchrist.org](http://www.brilliantchurchofchrist.org)

Elders: Deacon: Al Corkren  
Leonard Key / David Key  
Billy Box / Eddy Dickinson Minister: Greg Lowery

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P.O. Box 222  
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**How To Be Ready To  
Give An Answer**



**The  
Brilliant  
Beacon**



**Peter And His Lord**

By Winfred Clark

Surely one of the outstanding characters of the New Testament would be that man called Simon Peter. Many of us could easily identify with him because he seems to make the same mistakes we have made. He seems to be so very human.

It is very interesting to see how the Lord would deal with such a person. When we see the Lord’s reaction to Peter and his failures, we can see how he would deal with us.

There are any number of incidents one could find where Jesus and Peter were found together. You will find a number of conversations between Peter and the Lord. In fact, you will find more conversations recorded between Peter and the Lord than any of the other apostles. There is one particular incident that will help us to gain a better insight to their relationship. It will be found in the book of Luke. This occurred on the night the Lord instituted the Lord’s Supper. It was at that point that Jesus said,

Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren (Luke 22:31-32).

You will recall that Peter would say, “I am ready to go with thee, both into prison, and to death“ (Luke 22:33). Jesus responded by telling him, “the cock shall not crow this day, before that thou shalt thrice deny that thou knowest me“ (Luke 22:34). We know the rest of the story. He did indeed deny that he knew the Lord before the night was over. What lessons might we learn from this occasion?

**What Peter Thought He Knew About Peter**

None of us would think that Peter was acting the hypocrite when he talked to going to prison with the Lord. Peter had this in mind and he thought he knew he would go. He thought his courage was strong enough to meet the tests that were ahead. He thought he knew he would stand when the testing time came.

**THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS**

Billy Box: undergoing therapy for recent hip replacement surgery, please be praying that he can have a quick and full recovery

Faye Cotton: recent scans showed no new growth, is goes to UAB to see if there is any new treatments that she can take, please be praying that some new treatment can be found that will help her

Mary Eddy: she is recovering from knee surgery, please be praying that the she makes a full and quick recovery

Lellie Dickinson: is recovering from knee surgery and torn ligaments in her knee, please be praying for a full and quick recovery

Barbara Wilkinson: still having problem with infection on her feet, please pray that the medicine she is taking will cure this infection

Bill Foster: surgery went well to replace aorta valve, please be praying that his health will continue to improve

Danielle Taylor: recovering from recent spinal surgery, please pray that she makes a full recovery

Danny Harbin: recently diagnosed with prostate cancer, please keep him in your prayers

Mable Weeks: recent scans showed no new growth of cancer, please continue to pray that this cancer can be defeated

Barb Lemay: friend of Christie & Aaron, from the Midway congregation – she has advanced colon cancer; please be praying that treatments will help

Dean Key: is fighting a case of shingles, let us be praying that with medicine that the shingles will quickly clear up and that she will have no further trouble

Denise Kimbrell: has completed her treatments; please be praying that cancer will not return

**Upcoming Events**

Today	Fellowship Meal	
Today	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday Night Singing	5:00 pm

**THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS**

Sandy McCaleb: has started cancer treatments, please be praying that this cancer can be treated and defeated

Edward Skinner: has been recently diagnosed with cancer, please pray that this cancer will be treatable

Deborah Box: did find a small blood clot, please be praying that medicine will take care of this clot and there will be no further problems

Kay Dodd: has started treatments and will take them through November, please be praying that the treatments will defeat this cancer

Samuel Walker: having some heart problems, please be praying that he will receive help for this problems

Rebert Corkren: diagnosed with lung cancer, please be praying that he will receive the help needed defeat this cancer

Please remember the family of J.B. Weeks (Timmy’s Father), Mr. Week’s funeral was yesterday

Peter thought he was ready for any crisis that might come. In fact, you will find him speaking of going to prison (Luke 22:33). In his own mind, he could see himself going to prison with all that this entails. He thought he knew that he would even die with the Lord. Those are surely some very extreme encounters that Peter thought he was ready to meet with the Lord.

**What Jesus Knew About Peter**

Jesus knew far more about Peter than Peter knew about himself. In fact you will find John saying, “And needed not that any should testify of man: for he knew what was in man“ (John 2:25). Doesn’t Mark record the fact that Jesus was able to tell what men were thinking? Listen to what he has to say, “Why reason ye these things in your hearts“ (Mark 2:8)? This was said of those who stood by and criticized the Lord after he had said to the man that was sick of palsy, “Son, thy sins be forgiven thee“ (Mark 2:4-5).

Since Jesus was divine and a member of the Godhead, He possessed the knowledge of Deity. He would be able to know Peter’s down-sitting and his uprising, He would understand his thoughts afar off. There would not be a word in His tongue that He would not know altogether (Psm. 139:1-6). He would know all that there was to know about Peter.

Jesus knew that Peter needed somebody to pray for him. In fact, Jesus wanted Peter to know that He knew he needed someone to pray for him.

Jesus also knew that Peter would face a formidable foe in the Devil. He knew that Peter would be tried by the Devil to see whether or not he was what he claimed to be. He said, “Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat“ (Luke 22:31). This is the same being our Lord had faced in the wilderness and the same one who tempted Eve in the garden of Eden. Jesus knew the havoc he had caused in the world and the damage that he could still do. He knew that Peter could be overcome by such.

Yes, there is much that Jesus knew about Peter. In fact, the Lord knew much more about Peter than Peter knew about himself.

### What Peter Came To Learn About Peter

You will find that Peter come to see that our Lord knew more about him than he may have known at first. You will find that Peter did indeed deny the Lord that very night. Matthew records the facts that,

Peter sat without in the palace: and a damsel came unto him, saying, Thou also wast with Jesus of Galilee. But he denied before them all, saying, I know not what thou sayest (Matt. 26:69-70).

Later you will find, “And Peter remembered the word of Jesus, which said unto him, Before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice“ (Matt. 26:75). Now he has come to know that the Lord knew more about him than he knew about himself.

In this context, there is another interesting passage. You will remember that after the resurrection, our Lord was with the disciples, and He questioned Peter as to whether he loved Him (John 21:15-17). After His questions had probed the heart of Peter three times, you will find this statement made by Peter, “Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee“ (John 21:17). Yes Peter had come to know that Jesus knew more than Peter may have thought he knew.

Another thing that Peter came to learn was the fact that it was dangerous for him to follow the Lord at a distance. You will remember that as the procession moved through the streets that night that he “followed afar off” (Matt. 26:58). He found that to be a dangerous position. He would come to see that the best protection for him and his spiritual welfare would be to stay as close to the Lord and His disciples as possible.

Most of us could tell you that such is the only safe position even today. People do not need to stay away from the services of the church. Such is dangerous. They are missing the edification and education they need to be able to live in a world that is fraught with dangers to the soul. Doesn't Paul emphasize this principle when he says, “Him that is weak in the faith receive ye“ (Rom. 14:1)? Isn't he saying that those who are weak in the faith need those who are stronger? They surely do not need to be separated from those who are stronger. Peter came to learn this about himself.

Peter came to learn that one can think more highly of himself than he ought to think. He would agree with Paul when he said, “Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall” (1 Cor. 10:12). Peter would be able to say, “this is a lesson I had to learn the hard way”.

Peter came to learn that the Lord is still interested in us even though He knows our faults. If you will go back and read the account given by Luke, you will find the Lord would pray for him in spite of what He knew about Peter's failures. You will find Him giving Peter an assignment after his failure. This could be an encouragement to Peter to seek to correct his mistakes that would be made the very night when he claimed he would not make them.

*Expositions Of The Expositor*, vol. 2, p. 631-633.