



Failing Men – Rising

Peter: A man who failed, but chose to Rise!

Luke 22:31-32 And the Lord said, “Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you like wheat. But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to Me, strengthen your brethren”.

Question: Have you ever had a time in your own life that you felt as if Satan was sifting your life?

Read: Matthew 16:17 John 21:15-17, Luke 6:14

- Simon Bar-Jonah and Peter were two names for one man. Jesus often would call him Simon which reflected his old-self and Peter to which called him to attention.

Question: (Now read James 1:8) Can you see how Peter fit the description of being double-minded? How did that apply to your own life before you made Jesus your Lord?

- Peter’s name is mentioned more than any other disciple in the Gospels. No one speaks as much as Peter. No disciple ever rebuked Jesus as Peter did (Matthew 16:22). As a matter of fact, Jesus addressed him even as Satan.

Peter’s life contained 3 key elements to be a true leader

1. Peter had the right raw materials.
 - He was fashioned in his mother’s womb (Ps. 139:16-19)
 - He wasn’t afraid to ask questions (Matt. 15:15, Luke 12:41)
 - He was ambitious (Matt. 16:13-16)
2. Peter had the right life experiences.
 - He learned from hard experiences (Matt. 16:16-23)
 - He also failed Jesus on the night of his arrest (Luke 22:54-63)
3. Peter had the right character.
 - Lasting leadership is grounded in character. Character produces respect. Respect produces trust. And trust motivates followers.
 - Peter stood by Jesus in taxes (Matt. 17:24-27)
 - Peter learned submission (1 Peter 2:13-18)
 - Peter learned restraint (1 Peter 2:21-23)
 - Peter learned humility (1 Peter 5:5-6)

Peter ended his life by being a martyr for Christ (John 21:18-19). What kind of man will you be at the end of your days? I pray all of us become **“Failing Men – Rising”!**