

~PETER (2540)

(Pe'ter) [A Piece of Rock] [Hebrew, *ke-phim*]

.. Ministry With Jesus

.. Later Ministry

- This apostle of Jesus Christ is named in five different ways in the Scriptures, by the Hebrew, **Symeon**, the Greek **Simon**, from a Hebrew root meaning, **hear, listen**, **Peter** a Greek name he alone bears in the Scriptures, its Semitic equivalent **Cephas**, perhaps related to the Hebrew *ke-phim'*, rocks used at;
- They have to reside on the very slope of torrent valleys, in holes of the dust and in **rocks**. (**Job 30:6**)
- Because of the sound of the horsemen and bow shooters the entire city is running away. They have entered into the thickets, and into the **rocks** they have gone up. Every city is left, and there is no man dwelling in them. (**Jeremiah 4:29**)
- And the combination, **Simon Peter**.
- **Symeon** has related thoroughly how God for the first time turned his attention to the nations to take out of them a people for his name. (**Acts of Apostles 15:14**)
- The names of the twelve apostles are these; First, **Simon**, the one called **Peter**, and Andrew his brother, and James the son of Zebedee and John his brother. (**Matthew 10:2**)
- In answer **Simon Peter** said; You are the Christ, the Son of the living God. (**Matthew 16:16**)
- He led him to Jesus. When Jesus looked upon him he said; You are **Simon** the son of John; You will be called **Cephas**, which is translated **Peter**. (**John 1:42**)
- **Peter** was the son of John, or Jonah.
- In response Jesus said to him; Happy you are, **Simon** son of Jonah, because flesh and blood did not reveal it to you, but my Father who is in the heavens did. (**Matthew 16:17**)

- He led him to Jesus. When Jesus looked upon him he said; You are **Simon** the son of John; You will be called **Cephas**, which is translated **Peter**. (**John 1:42**)
- He is first shown residing in Bethsaida;
- Now Philip was from Bethsaida, from the city of Andrew and **Peter**. (**John 1:44**)
- But later in Capernaum,
- And he went down to Capernaum, a city of Galilee. And he was teaching them on the Sabbath. (**Luke 4:31**)
- After getting up out of the synagogue he entered into Simon's home. Now Simon's mother-in-law was distressed with a high fever, and they made request of him for her. (**Luke 4:38**)
- Both places being located on the northern shores of the Sea of Galilee. **Peter** and his brother Andrew were engaged in the fishing business, evidently associated with James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were sharers with **Simon**.
- So they motioned to their partners in the other boat to come and assist them, and they did come, and they filled both boats, so that these began to sink. (**Luke 5:7**)
- And likewise both James and John, Zebedees sons, who were sharers with **Simon**. But Jesus said to **Simon**; Stop being afraid. From now on you will be catching men alive. (**Luke 5:10**)
- Walking alongside the sea of Galilee he saw two brothers, Simon who is called **Peter** and Andrew his brother, letting down a fishing net into the sea, for they were fishers. (**Matthew 4:18**)
- And he said to them; Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men. (**Matthew 4:19**)
- At once abandoning the nets, they followed him. (**Matthew 4:20**)
- Going on also from there he saw two others who were brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. (**Matthew 4:21**)

- At once leaving the boat and their father, they followed him. **(Matthew 4:22)**
- While walking alongside the sea of Galilee he saw Simon and Andrew the brother of **Simon** casting their nets about in the sea, for they were fishers. **(Mark 1:16)**
- So Jesus said to them; Come after me, and I shall cause you to become fishers of men. **(Mark 1:17)**
- And at once they abandoned their nets and followed him. **(Mark 1:18)**
- And after going a little farther he saw James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in fact, while they were in their boat mending their nets. **(Mark 1:19)**
- And without delay he called them. In turn they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and went off after him. **(Mark 1:20)**
- And they went their way into Capernaum. No sooner was it the Sabbath than he entered into the synagogue and began to teach. **(Mark 1:21)**
- Thus, **Peter** was no lone fisherman but part of an operation of some size. Though the Jewish leaders viewed Peter and John as men unlettered and ordinary, this does not mean they were illiterate or unschooled. Regarding the **Greek** word *a-gram'ma-tos*, applied to them, **Hasting's Dictionary of the Bible (1905, Vol. III, p. 757)** says that to a Jew it meant one who had had no training in the Rabbinic study of Scripture.
- When by now the festival was half over, Jesus went up into the temple and began teaching. **(John 7:14)**
- Therefore the Jews fell to wondering, saying; How does this man have a knowledge of letters, when he has not studied at the schools? **(John 7:15)**
- Now when they beheld the outspokenness of **Peter** and John, and perceived that they were men unlettered and ordinary, they got to wondering. And they began to recognize about them that they used to be with Jesus. **(Acts of Apostles 4:13)**

- **Peter** is shown to be a married man, and at least in later years, his wife apparently accompanied him on his missions, or some of them, as did the wives of others of the apostles.
- We have authority to lead about a sister as a wife, even as the rest of the apostles and the Lords brothers and Cephas, do we not? (**1 Corinthians 9:5**)
- His mother-in-law lived in his home, one he shared with his brother Andrew.
- And immediately they went out of the synagogue and went into the home of **Simon** and Andrew with James and John. (**Mark 1:29**)
- Now **Simon's** mother-in-law was lying down sick with a fever, and they at once told him about her. (**Mark 1:30**)
- And going to her he raised her up, taking her by the hand, and the fever left her, and she began ministering to them. (**Mark 1:31**)

· Ministry With Jesus

- **Peter** was one of the earliest of Jesus disciples, being led to Jesus by Andrew, a disciple of John the Baptizer.
- Again the next day John was standing with two of his disciples. (**John 1:35**)
- And as he looked at Jesus walking he said; See, the Lamb of God! (**John 1:36**)
- And the two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus. (**John 1:37**)
- Then Jesus turned and, getting a view of them following, he said to them; What are you looking for? They said to him; Rabbi, which means, when translated, Teacher, where are you staying? (**John 1:38**)
- He said to them; Come, and you will see. Accordingly they went and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that

- day, it was about the tenth hour. ([John 1:39](#))
- Andrew the brother of Simon **Peter** was one of the two that heard what John said and followed Jesus. ([John 1:40](#))
 - First this one found his own brother, Simon, and said to him; We have found the Messiah, which means, when translated, Christ. ([John 1:41](#))
 - He led him to Jesus. When Jesus looked upon him he said; You are Simon the son of John; You will be called Cephas, which is translated Peter. ([John 1:42](#))
 - At this time Jesus gave him the name **Cephas, Peter**.
 - He led him to Jesus. When Jesus looked upon him he said; You are **Simon** the son of John; You will be called **Cephas**, which is translated Peter. ([John 1:42](#))
 - And the group of twelve that he formed were **Simon**, to whom he also gave the surname **Peter**. ([Mark 3:16](#))
 - And the name was likely prophetic. Jesus, who was able to discern that Nathanael was a man in whom there is no deceit, could also discern **Peter's** makeup. **Peter**, indeed, displayed **rocklike** qualities, especially after Jesus death and resurrection, becoming a strengthening influence on his fellow Christians.
 - Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him and said about him; See, an Israelite for a certainty, in whom there is no deceit. ([John 1:47](#))
 - Nathanael said to him; How does it come that you know me? Jesus in answer said to him; Before Philip called you, while you were under the fig tree, I saw you. ([John 1:48](#))
 - And because he was in no need to have anyone bear witness about man, for he himself knew what was in man. ([John 2:25](#))
 - But I have made supplication for you that your faith may not give out, and you, when once you have returned, strengthen your brothers. ([Luke 22:32](#))

- It was sometime later, up in Galilee, that **Peter**, his brother **Andrew**, and their associates **James** and **John** received Jesus call to come and be fishers of men.
- Again the next day John was standing with two of his disciples. (**John 1:35**)
- And as he looked at Jesus walking he said; See, the Lamb of God! (**John 1:36**)
- And the two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus. (**John 1:37**)
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- He said to them; Come, and you will see. Accordingly they went and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day, it was about the tenth hour. (**John 1:39**)
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- Walking alongside the sea of Galilee he saw two brothers, **Simon** who is called **Peter** and **Andrew** his brother, letting down a fishing net into the sea, for they were fishers. (**Matthew 4:18**)
- And he said to them; Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men. (**Matthew 4:19**)
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- Going on also from there he saw two others who were brothers, **James** the son of **Zebedee** and **John** his brother, in the boat with

- Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. **(Matthew 4:21)**
- At once leaving the boat and their father, they followed him. **(Matthew 4:22)**
 - While walking alongside the sea of Galilee he saw **Simon** and Andrew the brother of **Simon** casting their nets about in the sea, for they were fishers. **(Mark 1:16)**
 - So Jesus said to them; Come after me, and I shall cause you to become fishers of men. **(Mark 1:17)**
 - And at once they abandoned their nets and followed him. **(Mark 1:18)**
 - Jesus had chosen **Peter's** boat from which to speak to the multitude on the shore. Afterward Jesus caused a miraculous catch of fish, one that moved **Peter**, who had at first shown a doubtful attitude, to fall before Jesus in fear. Without hesitation he and his three associates abandoned their business to follow Jesus.
 - On an occasion when the crowd was pressing close upon him and listening to the word of God, he was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret. **(Luke 5:1)**
 - And he saw two boats docked at the lakeside, but the fishermen had got out of them and were washing off their nets. **(Luke 5:2)**
 - Going aboard one of the boats, which was **Simon's**, he asked him to pull away a bit from land. Then he sat down, and from the boat he began teaching the crowds. **(Luke 5:3)**
 - When he ceased speaking, he said to **Simon**; Pull out to where it is deep, and you men let down your nets for a catch. **(Luke 5:4)**
 - But **Simon** in reply said; Instructor, for a whole night we toiled and took nothing, but at your bidding I will lower the nets. **(Luke 5:5)**
 - Well, when they did this, they enclosed a great multitude of fish. In fact, their nets began ripping apart. **(Luke 5:6)**
 - So they motioned to their partners in the other boat to come and

- assist them, and they did come, and they filled both boats, so that these began to sink. (Luke 5:7)
- Seeing this, **Simon Peter** fell down at the knees of Jesus, saying; Depart from me, because I am a sinful man, Lord. (Luke 5:8)
 - For at the catch of fish which they took up astonishment overwhelmed him and all those with him. (Luke 5:9)
 - And likewise both James and John, Zebedees sons, who were sharers with Simon. But Jesus said to **Simon**; Stop being afraid. From now on you will be catching men alive. (Luke 5:10)
 - So they brought the boats back to land, and abandoned everything and followed him. (Luke 5:11)
 - After about a years discipleship, **Peter** was included among those 12 chosen to be apostles, or sent-forth ones.
 - And he ascended a mountain and summoned those he wanted, and they went off to him. (Mark 3:13)
 - And he formed a group of twelve, whom he also named apostles, that they might continue with him and that he might send them out to preach (Mark 3:14)
 - And to have authority to expel the demons. (Mark 3:15)
 - And the group of twelve that he formed were Simon, to whom he also gave the surname **Peter**. (Mark 3:16)
 - And James the son of Zebedee and John the brother of James, he also gave these the surname Boanerges, which means Sons of Thunder. (Mark 3:17)
 - And Andrew and Philip and Bartholomew and Matthew and Thomas and James the son of Alphaeus and Thaddaeus and Simon the Cananaean. (Mark 3:18)
 - And Judas Iscariot, who later betrayed him. And he went into a house. (Mark 3:19)

- Of the apostles, **Peter**, James, and John were several times selected by Jesus to accompany him on special occasions, as in the instances of the transfiguration scene
- Six days later Jesus took **Peter** and James and John his brother along and brought them up into a lofty mountain by themselves. (**Matthew 17:1**)
- And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone as the sun, and his outer garments became brilliant as the light. (**Matthew 17:2**)
- Accordingly six days later Jesus took **Peter** and James and John along, and brought them up into a lofty mountain to themselves alone. And he was transfigured before them. (**Mark 9:2**)
- In actual fact, about eight days after these words, he took **Peter** and John and James along and climbed up into the mountain to pray. (**Luke 9:28**)
- And as he was praying the appearance of his face became different and his apparel became glitteringly white. (**Luke 9:29**)
- **The raising of the daughter of Jairus.**
- Now one of the presiding officers of the synagogue, Jairus by name, came and, on catching sight of him, he fell at his feet (**Mark 5:22**)
- And entreated him many times, saying; My little daughter is in an extreme condition. Would you please come and put your hands upon her that she may get well and live. (**Mark 5:23**)
- At that he went off with him. And a great crowd was following him and pressing against him. (**Mark 5:24**)
- While he was yet speaking, some men from the home of the presiding officer of the synagogue came and said; Your daughter died! Why bother the teacher any longer? (**Mark 5:35**)
- But Jesus, overhearing the word being spoken, said to the presiding officer of the synagogue; Have no fear, only exercise faith. (**Mark 5:36**)

- Now he did not let anyone follow along with him except **Peter** and James and John the brother of James. (**Mark 5:37**)
- So they came to the house of the presiding officer of the synagogue, and he beheld the noisy confusion and those weeping and letting out many wails. (**Mark 5:38**)
- And, after stepping in, he said to them; Why are you causing noisy confusion and weeping? The young child has not died, but is sleeping. (**Mark 5:39**)
- At this they began to laugh scornfully at him. But, having put them all out, he took along the young child's father and mother and those with him, and he went in where the young child was. (**Mark 5:40**)
- And, taking the hand of the young child, he said to her; Talitha cumi, which, translated, means. Maiden, I say to you, Get up! (**Mark 5:41**)
- And immediately the maiden rose and began walking, for she was twelve years old. And at once they were beside themselves with great ecstasy. (**Mark 5:42**)
- **And Jesus personal trial in the garden of Gethsemane.**
- Then Jesus came with them to the spot called Gethsemane, and he said to the disciples; Sit down here while I go over there and pray. (**Matthew 26:36**)
- And taking along **Peter** and the two sons of Zebedee, he started to be grieved and to be sorely troubled. (**Matthew 26:37**)
- Then he said to them; My soul is deeply grieved, even to death. Stay here and keep on the watch with me. (**Matthew 26:38**)
- And going a little way forward, he fell upon his face, praying and saying; My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass away from me. Yet, not as I will, but as you will. (**Matthew 26:39**)
- And he came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and he said to **Peter**; Could you men not so much as watch one hour with me? (**Matthew 26:40**)

- **Keep on the watch and pray continually, that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit, of course, is eager, but the flesh is weak. (Matthew 26:41)**
- **Again, for the second time, he went off and prayed, saying; My Father, if it is not possible for this to pass away except I drink it, let your will take place. (Matthew 26:42)**
- **And he came again and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. (Matthew 26:43)**
- **So leaving them, he again went off and prayed for the third time, saying once more the same word. (Matthew 26:44)**
- **Then he came to the disciples and said to them; At such a time as this you are sleeping and taking your rest! Look! The hour has drawn near for the Son of man to be betrayed into the hands of sinners. (Matthew 26:45)**
- **Get up, let us go. Look! My betrayer has drawn near. (Matthew 26:46)**
- **So they came to a spot named Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples; Sit down here while I pray. (Mark 14:32)**
- **And he took Peter and James and John along with him, and he started to be stunned and to be sorely troubled. (Mark 14:33)**
- **And he said to them; My soul is deeply grieved, even to death. Stay here and keep on the watch. (Mark 14:34)**
- **And going a little way forward he proceeded to fall on the ground and began praying that, if it were possible, the hour might pass away from him. (Mark 14:35)**
- **And he went on to say; Abba, Father, all things are possible to you, remove this cup from me. Yet not what I want, but what you want. (Mark 14:36)**
- **And he came and found them sleeping, and he said to Peter; Simon, are you sleeping? Did you not have strength to keep on the watch one hour? (Mark 14:37)**
- **Men, keep on the watch and praying, in order, that you do not**

- come into temptation. The spirit, of course, is eager, but the flesh is weak. (Mark 14:38)
- And he went away again and prayed, saying the same word. (Mark 14:39)
 - And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were weighed down, and so they did not know what to answer him. (Mark 14:40)
 - And he came the third time and said to them; At such a time as this you are sleeping and taking your rest! It is enough! The hour has come! Look! The Son of man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. (Mark 14:41)
 - Get up, let us go. Look! My betrayer has drawn near. (Mark 14:42)
 - These three, plus Andrew, were those who particularly questioned Jesus about Jerusalem's destruction, Jesus future presence, and the conclusion of the system of things.
 - As he was going out of the temple one of his disciples said to him; Teacher, see! What sort of stones and what sort of buildings! (Mark 13:1)
 - However, Jesus said to him; Do you behold these great buildings? By no means will a stone be left here upon a stone and not be thrown down. (Mark 13:2)
 - And as he was sitting on the Mount of Olives with the temple in view, Peter and James and John and Andrew began to ask him privately. (Mark 13:3)
 - While he was sitting upon the Mount of Olives, the disciples approached him privately, saying; Tell us, When will these things be, and what will be the sign of your presence and of the conclusion of the system of things? (Matthew 24:3)
 - Though Peter is associated with his brother Andrew in the apostolic lists, the record of events more frequently pairs him with John, both before and after Jesus death and resurrection.
 - And he dispatched Peter and John, saying; Go and get the

Passover ready for us to eat. (Luke 22:8)

- Therefore Simon **Peter** nodded to this one and said to him, Tell who it is about whom he is saying it. (John 13:24)
- Therefore she ran and came to Simon **Peter** and to the other disciple, for whom Jesus had affection, and she said to them; They have taken away the Lord out of the memorial tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him. (John 20:2)
- Therefore that disciple whom Jesus used to love said to **Peter**; It is the Lord! Hence Simon Peter, upon hearing that it was the Lord, girded about himself his top garment, for he was naked, and plunged into the sea. (John 21:7)
- Now **Peter** and John were going up into the temple for the hour of prayer, the ninth hour. (Acts of Apostles 3:1)
- When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they dispatched **Peter** and John to them. (Acts of Apostles 8:14)
- So, when they had entered, they went up into the upper chamber, where they were staying, **Peter** as well as John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the zealous one, and Judas the son of James. (Acts of Apostles 1:13)
- Yes, when they came to know the undeserved kindness that was given me, James and Cephas and John, the ones who seemed to be pillars, gave me and Barnabas the right hand of sharing together, that we should go to the nations, but they to those who are circumcised. (Galatians 2:9)
- Whether this was due to natural friendship and affinity or because they were assigned by Jesus to work together. Is not made known.
- Now he summoned the twelve, and he initiated sending them out two by two, and he began to give them authority over the unclean spirits. (Mark 6:7)
- The Gospel accounts record more of **Peter's** statements than of any of the other 11 Apostles. He was clearly of a dynamic nature, not

diffident or hesitant. This doubtless caused him to speak up first or to express himself where others remained silent. He raised questions that resulted in Jesus clarifying and amplifying illustrations.

- **By way of response Peter said to him; Make the illustration plain to us. (Matthew 15:15)**
- **Then Peter came up and said to him; Lord, how many times is my brother to sin against me and am I to forgive him? Up to seven times? (Matthew 18:21)**
- **Then Peter said to him in reply; Look! We have left all things and followed you, what actually will there be for us? (Matthew 19:27)**
- **Jesus said to them; Truly I say to you, in the re-creation, when the Son of man sits down upon his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also yourselves sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. (Matthew 19:28)**
- **And everyone that has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or lands for the sake of my name will receive many times more and will inherit everlasting life. (Matthew 19:29)**
- **Then Peter said; Lord, are you saying this illustration to us or also to all? (Luke 12:41)**
- **Simon Peter said to him; Lord, where are you going? Jesus answered; Where I am going you cannot follow me now, but you will follow afterwards. (John 13:36)**
- **Peter said to him; Lord, why is it I cannot follow you at present? I will surrender my soul in your behalf. (John 13:37)**
- **Jesus answered; Will you surrender your soul in my behalf? Most truly I say to you, A cock will by no means crow until you have disowned me three times. (John 13:38)**
- **So Peter, remembering it, said to him; Rabbi, see! The fig tree that you cursed has withered up. (Mark 11:21)**
- **And in reply Jesus said to them; Have faith in God. (Mark 11:22)**

- Truly I say to you that whoever tells this mountain; Be lifted up and thrown into the sea, and does not doubt in his heart but has faith that what he says is going to occur, he will have it so. (**Mark 11:23**)
- This is why I tell you, all the things you pray and ask for have faith that you have practically received, and you will have them. (**Mark 11:24**)
- And when you stand praying, forgive whatever you have against anyone, in order, that your Father who is in the heavens may also forgive you your trespasses. (**Mark 11:25**)
- **At times he spoke impulsively, even impetuously. He was the one who felt he had to say something on seeing the vision of the transfiguration.**
- Furthermore, he went on to say to them; Truly I say to you, There are some of those standing here that will not taste death at all until first they see the kingdom of God already come in power. (**Mark 9:1**)
- Accordingly six days later Jesus took **Peter** and James and John along, and brought them up into a lofty mountain to themselves alone. And he was transfigured before them. (**Mark 9:2**)
- And his outer garments became glistening, far whiter than any clothes cleaner on earth could whiten them. (**Mark 9:3**)
- Also, Elijah with Moses appeared to them, and they were conversing with Jesus. (**Mark 9:4**)
- And responsively **Peter** said to Jesus; Rabbi, it is fine for us to be here, so let us erect three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah. (**Mark 9:5**)
- In fact, he did not know what response he should make, for they became quite fearful. (**Mark 9:6**)
- And as these were being separated from him, **Peter** said to Jesus; Instructor, it is fine for us to be here, so let us erect three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah, he not realizing what he was saying; (**Luke 9:33**)

- **By his somewhat flustered remark as to the worthwhileness of being there and his offering to build three tents, he apparently was suggesting that the vision, in which Moses and Elijah were now separating from Jesus, should not end but continue on.**
- **The night of the final Passover, Peter at first strongly objected to Jesus washing his feet, and then, on being reproved, wanted him to wash his head and hands also.**
- **After that he put water into a basin and started to wash the feet of the disciples and to dry them off with the towel with which he was girded. (John 13:5)**
- **And so he came to Simon Peter. He said to him; Lord, are you washing my feet? (John 13:6)**
- **In answer Jesus said to him; What I am doing you do not understand at present, but you will understand after these things. (John 13:7)**
- **Peter said to him; You will certainly never wash my feet. Jesus answered him; Unless I wash you, you have no part with me. (John 13:8)**
- **Simon Peter said to him; Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head. (John 13:9)**
- **Jesus said to him; He that has bathed does not need to have more than his feet washed, but is wholly clean. And you men are clean, but not all. (John 13:10)**
- **It may be seen, however, that Peter's expressions basically were born of active interest and thought, coupled with strong feeling. That they are included in the Bible record is evidence of their worth, even though at times they reveal certain human weaknesses of the speaker.**
- **Thus, when many disciples stumbled at Jesus teaching and abandoned him, Peter spoke for all the apostles in affirming their determination to remain with their Lord, the One having sayings of everlasting life the Holy One of God.**
- **Owing to this many of his disciples went off to the things behind and would no longer walk with him. (John 6:66)**

- Therefore Jesus said to the twelve; You do not want to go also, do you? ([John 6:67](#))
- Simon **Peter** answered him; Lord, whom shall we go away to? You have sayings of everlasting life. ([John 6:68](#))
- And we have believed and come to know that you are the Holy One of God. ([John 6:69](#))
- After the apostles generally had replied to Jesus question as to what people said about his identity, it was again **Peter** who expressed the solid conviction; You are the Christ, the Son of the living God, for which Jesus pronounced Peter blessed, or happy.
- Now when he had come into the parts of Caesarea Philippi, Jesus went asking his disciples; Who are men saying the Son of man is? ([Matthew 16:13](#))
- They said; Some say John the Baptist, others Elijah, still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets. ([Matthew 16:14](#))
- He said to them; You, though, who do you say I am? ([Matthew 16:15](#))
- In answer Simon **Peter** said; You are the Christ, the Son of the living God. ([Matthew 16:16](#))
- In response Jesus said to him; Happy you are, **Simon** son of Jonah, because flesh and blood did not reveal it to you, but my Father who is in the heavens did. ([Matthew 16:17](#))
- **Peter's** being foremost in speaking was matched by his being most frequently corrected, reprov'd, or rebuked. Though motivated by compassion, he committed the error of presuming to take Jesus aside and actually rebuke him for foretelling his future sufferings and death as the Messiah.
- Jesus turned his back on **Peter**, calling him an opposer, or Satan, who was pitting human reasoning against God's thoughts found in prophecy.
- From that time forward Jesus Christ commenced showing his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the older men and chief priests and scribes, and be killed,

- and on the third day be raised up. ([Matthew 16:21](#))
- At this **Peter** took him aside and commenced rebuking him, saying; Be kind to yourself, Lord; You will not have this destiny at all. ([Matthew 16:22](#))
 - But, turning his back, he said to **Peter**; Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me, because you think, not God's thoughts, but those of men. ([Matthew 16:23](#))
 - It may be noted, however, that Jesus looked at the other disciples when doing this, likely indicating that he knew **Peter** spoke sentiments shared by the others.
 - Indeed, with outspokenness he was making that statement. But **Peter** took him aside and started rebuking him. ([Mark 8:32](#))
 - He turned, looked at his disciples and rebuked **Peter**, and said; Get behind me, Satan, because you think, not God's thoughts, but those of men. ([Mark 8:33](#))
 - When **Peter** presumed to speak for Jesus on the payment of a certain tax, Jesus gently helped him to realize the need for more careful thought before speaking.
 - After they arrived in Capernaum the men collecting the two drachmas tax approached **Peter** and said; Does your teacher not pay the two drachmas tax? ([Matthew 17:24](#))
 - He said, Yes. However, when he entered the house Jesus got ahead of him by saying; What do you think, Simon? From whom do the kings of the earth receive duties or head tax? From their sons or from the strangers? ([Matthew 17:25](#))
 - When he said; From the strangers, Jesus said to him; Really, then, the sons are tax-free. ([Matthew 17:26](#))
 - But that we do not cause them to stumble, you go to the sea, cast a fishhook, and take the first fish coming up and, when you open its mouth, you will find a stater coin. Take that and give it to them for me and you. ([Matthew 17:27](#))
 - **Peter** revealed overconfidence and a certain feeling of superiority over the other 11 when declaring that, though they might stumble in

connection with Jesus, **he** would never do so, being willing to go to prison or even to die with Jesus.

- True, all the others joined in making such affirmation, but **Peter did so first and profusely**. Jesus then foretold Peter's threefold denial of his Lord.
- Then Jesus said to them; All of you will be stumbled in connection with me on this night, for it is written, I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered about. (**Matthew 26:31**)
- But after I have been raised up, I will go ahead of you into Galilee. (**Matthew 26:32**)
- But **Peter**, in answer, said to him; Although all the others are stumbled in connection with you, never will I be stumbled! (**Matthew 26:33**)
- Jesus said to him; Truly I say to you, on this night, before a cock crows, you will disown me three times. (**Matthew 26:34**)
- **Peter** said to him; Even if I should have to die with you, I will by no means disown you. All the other disciples also said the same thing. (**Matthew 26:35**)
- At that Jesus said to him; Truly I say to you, you today, yes, this night, before a cock crows twice, even you will disown me three times. (**Mark 14:30**)
- But he began to say profusely; If I have to die with you, I will by no means disown you. Also, all the others began saying the same thing. (**Mark 14:31**)
- Then he said to him; Lord, I am ready to go with you both into prison and into death. (**Luke 22:33**)
- But he said; I tell you, **Peter**, A cock will not crow today until you have three times denied knowing me. (**Luke 22:34**)
- **Peter** was not just a man of words but also a man of action, displaying both initiative and courage, as well as a strong attachment for his Lord. When Jesus sought out a lonely place before dawn to pray, **Simon** was soon out leading a group to hunt him down.

- **And early in the morning, while it was still dark, he rose up and went outside and left for a lonely place, and there he began praying. (Mark 1:35)**
- **However, Simon and those with him hunted him down. (Mark 1:36)**
- **And found him, and they said to him; All are looking for you. (Mark 1:37)**
- **Again, it was Peter who asked Jesus to command him to walk over the storm-swept waters to meet him, even walking a distance before giving way to doubt and starting to sink.**
- **But in the fourth watch period of the night he came to them, walking over the sea. (Matthew 14:25)**
- **When they caught sight of him walking on the sea, the disciples were troubled, saying; It is an apparition! And they cried out in their fear. (Matthew 14:26)**
- **But at once Jesus spoke to them with the words; Take courage, it is I, have no fear. (Matthew 14:27)**
- **In reply Peter said to him; Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you over the waters. (Matthew 14:28)**
- **He said; Come! Thereupon Peter, getting down off the boat, walked over the waters and went toward Jesus. (Matthew 14:29)**
- **But looking at the windstorm, he got afraid and, after starting to sink, he cried out; Lord, save me! (Matthew 14:30)**
- **Immediately stretching out his hand Jesus caught hold of him and said to him; You with little faith, why did you give way to doubt? (Matthew 14:31)**
- **And after they got up into the boat, the windstorm abated. (Matthew 14:32)**
- **In the garden of Gethsemane on the final night of Jesus earthly life, Peter, along with James and John, was privileged to accompany Jesus to the area where he engaged in fervent prayer.**

- **Peter**, like the other apostles, gave way to sleep, induced by tiredness and grief. Doubtless because Peter had so profusely voiced determination to stay by Jesus, it was to him that Jesus particularly addressed himself when he said; Could you men not so much as watch one hour with me?
- Then Jesus came with them to the spot called Gethsemane, and he said to the disciples; Sit down here while I go over there and pray. (**Matthew 26:36**)
- And taking along **Peter** and the two sons of Zebedee, he started to be grieved and to be sorely troubled. (**Matthew 26:37**)
- Then he said to them; My soul is deeply grieved, even to death. Stay here and keep on the watch with me. (**Matthew 26:38**)
- And going a little way forward, he fell upon his face, praying and saying; My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass away from me. Yet, not as I will, but as you will. (**Matthew 26:39**)
- And he came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and he said to **Peter**; Could you men not so much as watch one hour with me? (**Matthew 26:40**)
- Keep on the watch and pray continually, that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit, of course, is eager, but the flesh is weak. (**Matthew 26:41**)
- Again, for the second time, he went off and prayed, saying; My Father, if it is not possible for this to pass away except I drink it, let your will take place. (**Matthew 26:42**)
- And he came again and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. (**Matthew 26:43**)
- So leaving them, he again went off and prayed for the third time, saying once more the same word. (**Matthew 26:44**)
- Then he came to the disciples and said to them; At such a time as this you are sleeping and taking your rest! Look! The hour has drawn near for the Son of man to be betrayed into the hands of sinners. (**Matthew 26:45**)

- On going out he went as customarily to the Mount of Olives, and the disciples also followed him. (Luke 22:39)
- Having come to the place he said to them; Carry on prayer, that you do not enter into temptation. (Luke 22:40)
- And he himself drew away from them about a stones throw, and bent his knees and began to pray. (Luke 22:41)
- Saying; Father, if you wish, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, let, not my will, but yours take place. (Luke 22:42)
- Then an angel from heaven appeared to him and strengthened him. (Luke 22:43)
- But getting into an agony he continued praying more earnestly, and his sweat became as drops of blood falling to the ground. (Luke 22:44)
- And he rose from prayer, went to the disciples and found them slumbering from grief. (Luke 22:45)
- And he said to them; Why are you sleeping? Rise and carry on prayer, that you do not enter into temptation. (Luke 22:46)
- **Peter** failed to carry on prayer and suffered the consequences.
- The disciples, on seeing the mob about to take Jesus, asked whether they should fight, but **Peter**, not waiting to find out, acted, cutting off one man's ear with a sword stroke, though the fisherman likely intended to inflict worse damage, and was then reproved by Jesus.
- But, look! One of those with Jesus reached out his hand and drew his sword and struck the slave of the High Priest and took off his ear. (Matthew 26:51)
- Then Jesus said to him; Return your sword to its place, for all those who take the sword will perish by the sword. (Matthew 26:52)
- When those about him saw what was going to happen, they said; Lord, shall we strike with the sword? (Luke 22:49)

- A certain one of them even did strike the slave of the High Priest and took off his right ear. ([Luke 22:50](#))
- But in reply Jesus said; Let it go as far as this. And he touched the ear and healed him. ([Luke 22:51](#))
- Then Simon **Peter**, as he had a sword, drew it and struck the slave of the High Priest and cut his right ear off. The name of the slave was Malchus. ([John 18:10](#))
- Jesus, however, said to **Peter**; Put the sword into its sheath. The cup that the Father has given me, should I not by all means drink it? ([John 18:11](#))
- Although, like the other disciples, **Peter** abandoned Jesus, he thereafter followed the arresting mob at a good distance, apparently torn between fear for his own life and his deep concern as to what would happen to Jesus.
- Those who took Jesus into custody led him away to Caiaphas the High Priest, where the scribes and the older men were gathered together. ([Matthew 26:57](#))
- But **Peter** kept following him at a good distance, as far as the courtyard of the High Priest, and, after going inside, he was sitting with the house attendants to see the outcome. ([Matthew 26:58](#))
- Aided by another disciple, who evidently followed or accompanied him to the High Priest's residence, **Peter** entered right into the courtyard.
- Now Simon **Peter** as well as another disciple was following Jesus. That disciple was known to the High Priest, and he went in with Jesus into the courtyard of the High Priest. ([John 18:15](#))
- But **Peter** was standing outside at the door. Therefore the other disciple, who was known to the High Priest, went out and spoke to the doorkeeper and brought **Peter** in. ([John 18:16](#))
- He did not remain quietly unobtrusive in some dark corner but went up and warmed himself by the fire. The firelight enabled others to recognize him as a companion of Jesus, and his Galilean accent added to their suspicions.

- **Accused, Peter** three times denied even knowing Jesus, finally giving way to cursing in the vehemence of his denial. Somewhere in the city a cock crowed a second time, and Jesus turned and looked upon **Peter**. **Peter** now went outside, broke down, and wept bitterly.
- Now **Peter** was sitting outside in the courtyard, and a servant girl came up to him, saying; You, too, were with Jesus the Galilean! (**Matthew 26:69**)
- But he denied it before them all, saying; I do not know what you are talking about. (**Matthew 26:70**)
- After he had gone out to the gatehouse, another girl noticed him and said to those there; This man was with Jesus the Nazarene. (**Matthew 26:71**)
- And again he denied it, with an oath; I do not know the man! (**Matthew 26:72**)
- After a little while those standing around came up and said to **Peter**; Certainly you also are one of them, for, in fact, your dialect gives you away. (**Matthew 26:73**)
- Then he started to curse and swear; I do not know the man! And immediately a cock crowed. (**Matthew 26:74**)
- And **Peter** called to mind the saying Jesus spoke, namely; Before a cock crows, you will disown me three times. And he went outside and wept bitterly. (**Matthew 26:75**)
- Now while **Peter** was below in the courtyard, one of the servant girls of the High Priest came. (**Mark 14:66**)
- And, seeing **Peter** warming himself, she looked straight at him and said; You, too, were with the Nazarene, this Jesus. (**Mark 14:67**)
- But he denied it, saying; Neither do I know him nor do I understand what you are saying; and he went outside to the vestibule. (**Mark 14:68**)
- There the servant girl, at the sight of him, started again to say to those standing by; This is one of them. (**Mark 14:69**)

- **Again he was denying it. And once more after a little while those standing by began saying to Peter; Certainly you are one of them, for, in fact, you are a Galilean. (Mark 14:70)**
- **But he commenced to curse and swear; I do not know this man of whom you speak. (Mark 14:71)**
- **And immediately a cock crowed a second time, and Peter recalled the saying that Jesus spoke to him; Before a cock crows twice, you will disown me three times. And he broke down and gave way to weeping. (Mark 14:72)**
- **Then they arrested him and led him off and brought him into the house of the High Priest, but Peter was following at a distance. (Luke 22:54)**
- **When they lit a fire in the midst of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter was sitting in among them. (Luke 22:55)**
- **But a certain servant girl saw him sitting by the bright fire and looked him over and said; This man also was with him. (Luke 22:56)**
- **But he denied it, saying; I do not know him, woman. (Luke 22:57)**
- **And after a short time another person seeing him said; You also are one of them. But Peter said; Man, I am not. (Luke 22:58)**
- **And after about an hour intervened a certain other man began insisting strongly; For a certainty this man also was with him, for, in fact, he is a Galilean! (Luke 22:59)**
- **But Peter said; Man, I do not know what you are saying. And instantly, while he was yet speaking, a cock crowed. (Luke 22:60)**
- **And the Lord turned and looked upon Peter, and Peter recalled the utterance of the Lord when he said to him; Before a cock crows today you will disown me three times. (Luke 22:61)**
- **And he went outside and wept bitterly. (Luke 22:6)**

- The servant girl, the doorkeeper, then said to **Peter**; You are not also one of this man's disciples, are you? He said; I am not. (**John 18:17**)
- Now the slaves and the officers were standing about, as they had built a charcoal fire, because it was cold, and they were warming themselves. **Peter** also was standing with them and warming himself. (**John 18:18**)
- However, Jesus earlier supplication on **Peter's** behalf was answered, and Peter's faith did not give out completely.
- Simon, Simon, look! Satan has demanded to have you men to sift you as wheat. (**Luke 22:31**)
- But I have made supplication for you that your faith may not give out, and you, when once you have returned, strengthen your brothers. (**Luke 22:32**)

See Also COCKCROWING

See Also OATH

- Following Jesus death and resurrection, the women who went to the tomb were told by the angel to carry a message to his disciples and **Peter**.
- So when the Sabbath had passed, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices in order to come and grease him. (**Mark 16:1**)
- And very early on the first day of the week they came to the memorial tomb, when the sun had risen. (**Mark 16:2**)
- And they were saying one to another; Who will roll the stone away from the door of the memorial tomb for us? (**Mark 16:3**)
- But when they looked up, they beheld that the stone had been rolled away, although it was very large. (**Mark 16:4**)
- When they entered into the memorial tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side clothed in a white robe, and they were stunned. (**Mark 16:5**)
- He said to them; Stop being stunned. You are looking for Jesus

- the Nazarene, who was impaled. He was raised up, he is not here. See! The place where they laid him. (**Mark 16:6**)
- **But go, tell his disciples and Peter; He is going ahead of you into Galilee, there you will see him, just as he told you. (Mark 16:7)**
 - **After the Sabbath, when it was growing light on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to view the grave. (Matthew 28:1)**
 - **And, notice! a great earthquake had taken place, for Yehowah's angel had descended from heaven and approached and rolled away the stone, and was sitting on it. (Matthew 28:2)**
 - **His outward appearance was as lightning, and his clothing as white as snow. (Matthew 28:3)**
 - **Yes, for fear of him the watchmen trembled and became as dead men. (Matthew 28:4)**
 - **But the angel in answer said to the women; Do not you be fearful, for I know you are looking for Jesus who was impaled. (Matthew 28:5)**
 - **He is not here, for he was raised up, as he said. Come, see the place where he was lying. (Matthew 28:6)**
 - **And go quickly and tell his disciples that he was raised up from the dead, and, look! He is going ahead of you into Galilee, there you will see him. Look! I have told you. (Matthew 28:7)**
 - **So, quickly leaving the memorial tomb, with fear and great joy, they ran to report to his disciples. (Matthew 28:8)**
 - **And, look! Jesus met them and said; Good day! They approached and caught him by his feet and did obeisance to him. (Matthew 28:9)**
 - **Then Jesus said to them; Have no fear! Go, report to my brothers, that they may go off into Galilee, and there they will see me. (Matthew 28:10)**
 - **Mary Magdalene carried the message to Peter and John, and they began running to the tomb, Peter being outdistanced by John.**

Whereas John stopped in front of the tomb and only looked inside, **Peter** went right in, being followed then by John.

- On the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the memorial tomb early, while there was still darkness, and she beheld the stone already taken away from the memorial tomb. (**John 20:1**)
- Therefore she ran and came to Simon **Peter** and to the other disciple, for whom Jesus had affection, and she said to them; They have taken away the Lord out of the memorial tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him. (**John 20:2**)
- Then **Peter** and the other disciple went out and started for the memorial tomb. (**John 20:3**)
- Yes, the two together began to run, but the other disciple ran ahead of **Peter** with greater speed and reached the memorial tomb first. (**John 20:4**)
- And, stooping forward, he beheld the bandages lying, yet he did not go in. (**John 20:5**)
- Then Simon **Peter** also came following him, and he entered into the memorial tomb. And he viewed the bandages lying. (**John 20:6**)
- Also the cloth that had been upon his head not lying with the bandages but separately rolled up in one place. (**John 20:7**)
- At that time, therefore, the other disciple who had reached the memorial tomb first also went in, and he saw and believed. (**John 20:8**)
- Sometime prior to his appearing to the disciples as a group, Jesus appeared to **Peter**. This, plus the fact that Peter had been specifically named by the angel, should have assured the repentant Peter that his threefold denial had not forever severed him from association with the Lord.
- Saying; For a fact the Lord was raised up and he appeared to **Simon!** (**Luke 24:34**)
- And that he appeared to **Cephas**, then to the twelve. (**1**

Corinthians 15:5)

- Prior to Jesus manifesting himself to the disciples at the Sea of Galilee, or Tiberias, energetic **Peter** had announced he was going fishing, and the others joined him.
- When John later recognized Jesus on the beach, **Peter** impulsively swam ashore, leaving the others to bring the boat in, and when Jesus subsequently requested fish, Peter responded by drawing the net in to shore.
- After these things Jesus manifested himself again to the disciples at the sea of Tiberias, but he made the manifestation in this way. (**John 21:1**)
- There were in company Simon **Peter** and Thomas, who was called The Twin, and Nathanael from Cana of Galilee and the sons of Zebedee and two others of his disciples. (**John 21:2**)
- Simon **Peter** said to them; I am going fishing. They said to him; We also are coming with you. Out they went and got aboard the boat, but during that night they caught nothing. (**John 21:3**)
- However, just as it was getting to be morning, Jesus stood on the beach, but the disciples did not, of course, discern that it was Jesus. (**John 21:4**)
- Then Jesus said to them; Young children, you do not have anything to eat, do you? They answered; No! To him. (**John 21:5**)
- He said to them; Cast the net on the right side of the boat and you will find some. Then they cast it, but they were no longer able to draw it in because of the multitude of the fishes. (**John 21:6**)
- Therefore that disciple whom Jesus used to love said to **Peter**; It is the Lord! Hence **Simon Peter**, upon hearing that it was the Lord, girded about himself his top garment, for he was naked, and plunged into the sea. (**John 21:7**)
- But the other disciples came in the little boat, for they were not a long way from land, only about three hundred feet away, dragging the net of fishes. (**John 21:8**)

- However, when they disembarked onto land they beheld lying there a charcoal fire and fish lying upon it and bread. (**John 21:9**)
- Jesus said to them; Bring some of the fish you just now caught. (**John 21:10**)
- **Simon Peter**, therefore, went on board and drew the net to land full of big fishes, one hundred and fifty-three of them. But although there were so many the net did not burst. (**John 21:11**)
- Jesus said to them; Come, take your breakfast. Not one of the disciples had the courage to inquire of him; Who are you? because they knew it was the Lord. (**John 21:12**)
- Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and the fish likewise. (**John 21:13**)
- It was on this occasion that Jesus three times questioned **Peter**, who had three times denied his Lord, as to his love for him, giving **Peter** the commission to shepherd his sheep. Jesus also foretold the manner of **Peter's** death, causing **Peter**, on catching sight of the apostle John, to ask:
- When, now, they had breakfasted, Jesus said to **Simon Peter**; **Simon** son of John, do you love me more than these? He said to him; Yes, Lord, you know I have affection for you. He said to him; Feed my lambs. (**John 21:15**)
- Again he said to him, a second time; Simon son of John, do you love me? He said to him; Yes, Lord, you know I have affection for you. He said to him; Shepherd my little sheep. (**John 21:16**)
- He said to him the third time; Simon son of John, do you have affection for me? **Peter** became grieved that he said to him the third time; Do you have affection for me? So he said to him; Lord, you know all things; You are aware that I have affection for you. Jesus said to him; Feed my little sheep. (**John 21:17**)
- Most truly I say to you, when you were younger, you used to gird yourself and walk about where you wanted. But when you grow old you will stretch out your hands and another man will gird you and bear you where you do not wish. (**John 21:18**)

- This he said to signify by what sort of death he would glorify God. So, when he had said this, he said to him; Continue following me. (**John 21:19**)
- Upon turning about **Peter** saw the disciple whom Jesus used to love following, the one who at the evening meal had also leaned back upon his breast and said; Lord, who is the one betraying you? (**John 21:20**)
- Accordingly, when he caught sight of him, **Peter** said to Jesus; Lord, what will this man do? (**John 21:21**)
- Jesus said to him; If it is my will for him to remain until I come, of what concern is that to you? You continue following me. (**John 21:22**)

· Later Ministry

- Having returned from his fall into the snare of fear caused largely by overconfidence.
- Trembling at men is what lays a snare, but he that is trusting in Yehowah will be protected. (**Proverbs 29:25**)
- **Peter** was now to strengthen his brothers in fulfillment of Christ's exhortation.
- But I have made supplication for you that your faith may not give out, and you, when once you have returned, strengthen your brothers. (**Luke 22:32**)
- And to do shepherding work among His sheep.
- When, now, they had breakfasted, Jesus said to Simon **Peter**; **Simon** son of John, do you love me more than these? He said to him; Yes, Lord, you know I have affection for you. He said to him; Feed my lambs. (**John 21:15**)
- Again he said to him, a second time; Simon son of John, do you love me? He said to him; Yes, Lord, you know I have affection for you. He said to him; Shepherd my little sheep. (**John 21:16**)
- He said to him the third time; **Simon** son of John, do you have affection for me? **Peter** became grieved that he said to him the

third time; Do you have affection for me? So he said to him; Lord, you know all things; You are aware that I have affection for you. Jesus said to him; Feed my little sheep. ([John 21:17](#))

- In harmony with this, we find **Peter** taking a prominent part in the activity of the disciples after Jesus ascension into heaven. Prior to Pentecost of **33 C.E.**, **Peter** brought up the matter of a replacement for unfaithful Judas, presenting Scriptural evidence in favor of such action. The assembly carried through on his recommendation.
- Now during these days **Peter** rose up in the midst of the brothers and said, the crowd of persons was all together about one hundred and twenty. ([Acts of Apostles 1:15](#))
- Men, brothers, it was necessary for the scripture to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand by David's mouth about Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus. ([Acts of Apostles 1:16](#))
- Because he had been numbered among us and he obtained a share in this ministry. ([Acts of Apostles 1:17](#))
- This very man, therefore, purchased a field with the wages for unrighteousness, and pitching head foremost he noisily burst in his midst and all his intestines were poured out. ([Acts of Apostles 1:18](#))
- It also became known to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that that field was called in their language Akeldama, that is, Field of Blood. ([Acts of Apostles 1:19](#))
- For it is written in the book of Psalms, Let his lodging place become desolate, and let there be no dweller in it, and, His office of oversight let someone else take. ([Acts of Apostles 1:20](#))
- It is therefore necessary that of the men that assembled with us during all the time in which the Lord Jesus went in and out among us. ([Acts of Apostles 1:21](#))
- Starting with his baptism by John and until the day he was received up from us, one of these men should become a witness with us of his resurrection. ([Acts of Apostles 1:22](#))
- So they put up two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was surnamed

- Justus, and Matthias. ([Acts of Apostles 1:23](#))
- And they prayed and said; You, O Yehowah, who know the hearts of all, designate which one of these two men you have chosen. ([Acts of Apostles 1:24](#))
 - To take the place of this ministry and apostleship, from which Judas deviated to go to his own place. ([Acts of Apostles 1:25](#))
 - So they cast lots over them, and the lot fell upon Matthias, and he was reckoned along with the eleven apostles. ([Acts of Apostles 1:26](#))
 - Again, on Pentecost, under guidance of Holy Spirit **Peter** acted as spokesman for the apostles and made use of the first of the **keys** given him by Jesus, thereby opening up the way for Jews to become members of the Kingdom.
 - Now while the day of the festival of Pentecost was in progress they were all together at the same place. ([Acts of Apostles 2:1](#))
 - And suddenly there occurred from heaven a noise just like that of a rushing stiff breeze, and it filled the whole house in which they were sitting. ([Acts of Apostles 2:2](#))
 - And tongues as if of fire became visible to them and were distributed about, and one sat upon each one of them. ([Acts of Apostles 2:3](#))
 - And they all became filled with Holy Spirit and started to speak with different tongues, just as the spirit was granting them to make utterance. ([Acts of Apostles 2:4](#))
 - As it was, there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, reverent men, from every nation of those under heaven. ([Acts of Apostles 2:5](#))
 - So, when this sound occurred, the multitude came together and were bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. ([Acts of Apostles 2:6](#))
 - Indeed, they were astonished and began to wonder and say; See here, all these who are speaking are Galileans, are they not? ([Acts of Apostles 2:7](#))

- **And yet how is it we are hearing, each one of us, his own language in which we were born? (Acts of Apostles 2:8)**
- **Parthians and Medes and Elamites, and the inhabitants of Mesopotamia, and Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and the district of Asia. (Acts of Apostles 2:9)**
- **And Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya, which is toward Cyrene, and sojourners from Rome, both Jews and proselytes. (Acts of Apostles 2:10)**
- **Cretans and Arabians, we hear them speaking in our tongues about the magnificent things of God. (Acts of Apostles 2:11)**
- **Yes, they were all astonished and were in perplexity, saying one to another; What does this thing purport to be? (Acts of Apostles 2:12)**
- **However, different ones mocked at them and began to say; They are full of sweet wine. (Acts of Apostles 2:13)**
- **But Peter stood up with the eleven and raised his voice and made this utterance to them; Men of Judea and all you inhabitants of Jerusalem, let this be known to you and give ear to my sayings. (Acts of Apostles 2:14)**
- **These people are, in fact, not drunk, as you suppose, for it is the third hour of the day. (Acts of Apostles 2:15)**
- **On the contrary, this is what was said through the prophet Joel. (Acts of Apostles 2:16)**
- **And in the last days, God says, I shall pour out some of my spirit upon every sort of flesh, and your sons and your daughters will prophesy and your young men will see visions and your old men will dream dreams. (Acts of Apostles 2:17)**
- **And even upon my men slaves and upon my women slaves I will pour out some of my spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. (Acts of Apostles 2:18)**
- **And I will give portents in heaven above and signs on earth below, blood and fire and smoke mist. (Acts of Apostles 2:19)**

- The sun will be turned into darkness and the moon into blood before the great and illustrious day of Yehowah arrives. (**Acts of Apostles 2:20**)
- And everyone who calls on the name of Yehowah will be saved. (**Acts of Apostles 2:21**)
- Men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus the Nazarene, a man publicly shown by God to you through powerful works and portents and signs that God did through him in your midst, just as you yourselves know. (**Acts of Apostles 2:22**)
- This man, as one delivered up by the determined counsel and foreknowledge of God, you fastened to a stake by the hand of lawless men and did away with. (**Acts of Apostles 2:23**)
- But God resurrected him by loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to continue to be held fast by it. (**Acts of Apostles 2:24**)
- For David says respecting him, I had Yehowah constantly before my eyes, because he is at my right hand that I may never be shaken. (**Acts of Apostles 2:25**)
- On this account my heart became cheerful and my tongue rejoiced greatly. Moreover, even my flesh will reside in hope. (**Acts of Apostles 2:26**)
- Because you will not leave my soul in Hades, neither will you allow your loyal one to see corruption. (**Acts of Apostles 2:27**)
- You have made lifes ways known to me, you will fill me with good cheer with your face. (**Acts of Apostles 2:28**)
- Men, brothers, it is allowable to speak with freeness of speech to you concerning the family head David, that he both deceased and was buried and his tomb is among us to this day. (**Acts of Apostles 2:29**)
- Therefore, because he was a prophet and knew that God had sworn to him with an oath that he would seat one from the fruitage of his loins upon his throne. (**Acts of Apostles 2:30**)
- He saw beforehand and spoke concerning the resurrection of the

Christ, that neither was he forsaken in Hades nor did his flesh see corruption. ([Acts of Apostles 2:31](#))

- This Jesus God resurrected, of which fact we are all witnesses. ([Acts of Apostles 2:32](#))
- Therefore because he was exalted to the right hand of God and received the promised Holy Spirit from the Father, he has poured out this which you see and hear. ([Acts of Apostles 2:33](#))
- Actually David did not ascend to the heavens, but he himself says, Yehowah said to my Lord; Sit at my right hand. ([Acts of Apostles 2:34](#))
- Until I place your enemies as a stool for your feet. ([Acts of Apostles 2:35](#))
- Therefore let all the house of Israel know for a certainty that God made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you impaled. ([Acts of Apostles 2:36](#))
- Now when they heard this they were stabbed to the heart, and they said to **Peter** and the rest of the apostles; Men, brothers, what shall we do? ([Acts of Apostles 2:37](#))
- **Peter** said to them; Repent, and let each one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the free gift of the Holy Spirit. ([Acts of Apostles 2:38](#))
- For the promise is to you and to your children and to all those afar off, just as many as Yehowah our God may call to him. ([Acts of Apostles 2:39](#))
- And with many other words he bore thorough witness and kept exhorting them, saying; Get saved from this crooked generation. ([Acts of Apostles 2:40](#))
- Therefore those who embraced his word heartily were baptized, and on that day about three thousand souls were added. ([Acts of Apostles 2:41](#))

See Also KEY

- His prominence in the early Christian congregation did not end at Pentecost. He and John alone of the original apostles are thereafter named in the book of Acts, except for the brief mention of the execution of James the brother of John, the other member of the group of three apostles who had enjoyed most intimate fellowship with Jesus.
- He did away with James the brother of John by the sword. ([Acts of Apostles 12:2](#))
- **Peter** seems to have been especially notable for the performance of miracles.
- Now **Peter** and John were going up into the temple for the hour of prayer, the ninth hour. ([Acts of Apostles 3:1](#))
- And a certain man that was lame from his mothers womb was being carried, and they would daily put him near the temple door that was called Beautiful, in order to ask gifts of mercy from those entering into the temple. ([Acts of Apostles 3:2](#))
- When he caught sight of **Peter** and John about to go into the temple he began requesting to get gifts of mercy. ([Acts of Apostles 3:3](#))
- But **Peter**, together with John, gazed at him and said; Take a look at us. ([Acts of Apostles 3:4](#))
- So he fixed his attention upon them, expecting to get something from them. ([Acts of Apostles 3:5](#))
- However, **Peter** said; Silver and gold I do not possess, but what I do have is what I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, walk! ([Acts of Apostles 3:6](#))
- With that he took hold of him by the right hand and raised him up. Instantly the soles of his feet and his anklebones were made firm. ([Acts of Apostles 3:7](#))
- And, leaping up, he stood up and began walking, and he entered with them into the temple, walking and leaping and praising God. ([Acts of Apostles 3:8](#))
- And all the people got sight of him walking and praising God.

(Acts of Apostles 3:9)

- **Moreover, they began to recognize him, that this was the man that used to sit for gifts of mercy at the Beautiful Gate of the temple, and they became filled with astonishment and ecstasy at what had happened to him. (Acts of Apostles 3:10)**
- **Well, as the man was holding onto Peter and John, all the people ran together to them at what was called Solomon's colonnade, surprised out of their wits. (Acts of Apostles 3:11)**
- **When Peter saw this, he said to the people; Men of Israel, why are you wondering over this, or why are you gazing at us as though by personal power or godly devotion we have made him walk? (Acts of Apostles 3:12)**
- **The God of Abraham and of Isaac and of Jacob, the God of our forefathers, has glorified his Servant, Jesus, whom you, for your part, delivered up and disowned before Pilates face, when he had decided to release him. (Acts of Apostles 3:13)**
- **Yes, you disowned that holy and righteous one, and you asked for a man, a murderer, to be freely granted to you. (Acts of Apostles 3:14)**
- **Whereas you killed the Chief Agent of life. But God raised him up from the dead, of which fact we are witnesses. (Acts of Apostles 3:15)**
- **Consequently his name, by our faith in his name, has made this man strong whom you behold and know, and the faith that is through him has given the man this complete soundness in the sight of all of you. (Acts of Apostles 3:16)**
- **And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, just as your rulers also did. (Acts of Apostles 3:17)**
- **But in this way God has fulfilled the things he announced beforehand through the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer. (Acts of Apostles 3:18)**
- **Repent, therefore, and turn around so as to get your sins blotted out, that seasons of refreshing may come from the person of Yehowah (Acts of Apostles 3:19)**

- **And that he may send forth the Christ appointed for you, Jesus. (Acts of Apostles 3:20)**
- **Whom heaven, indeed, must hold within itself until the times of restoration of all things of which God spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets of old time. (Acts of Apostles 3:21)**
- **In fact, Moses said; Yehowah God will raise up for you from among your brothers a prophet like me. You must listen to him according to all the things he speaks to you. (Acts of Apostles 3:22)**
- **Indeed, any soul that does not listen to that Prophet will be completely destroyed from among the people. (Acts of Apostles 3:23)**
- **And all the prophets, in fact, from Samuel on and those in succession, just as many as have spoken, have also plainly declared these days. (Acts of Apostles 3:24)**
- **You are the sons of the prophets and of the covenant which God covenanted with your forefathers, saying to Abraham; And in your seed all the families of the earth will be blessed. (Acts of Apostles 3:25)**
- **To you first God, after raising up his Servant, sent him forth to bless you by turning each one away from your wicked deeds. (Acts of Apostles 3:26)**
- **Moreover, through the hands of the apostles many signs and portents continued to occur among the people, and they were all with one accord in Solomon's colonnade. (Acts of Apostles 5:12)**
- **True, not a one of the others had the courage to join himself to them, nevertheless, the people were extolling them. (Acts of Apostles 5:13)**
- **More than that, believers in the Lord kept on being added, multitudes both of men and of women. (Acts of Apostles 5:14)**
- **So that they brought the sick out even into the broad ways and laid them there upon little beds and cots, in order, that, as Peter would go by, at least his shadow might fall upon some one of**

them. (**Acts of Apostles 5:15**)

- Also, the multitude from the cities around Jerusalem kept coming together, bearing sick people and those troubled with unclean spirits, and they would one and all be cured. (**Acts of Apostles 5:16**)
- For He who gave **Peter** powers necessary for an apostleship to those who are circumcised gave powers also to me for those who are of the nations. (**Galatians 2:8**)
- **With the help of the Holy Spirit, he boldly addressed the Jewish rulers who had him and John arrested.**
- Now while the two were speaking to the people, the chief priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them. (**Acts of Apostles 4:1**)
- Being annoyed because they were teaching the people and were plainly declaring the resurrection from the dead in the case of Jesus. (**Acts of Apostles 4:2**)
- And they laid their hands upon them and put them in custody till the next day, for it was already evening. (**Acts of Apostles 4:3**)
- However, many of those who had listened to the speech believed, and the number of the men became about five thousand. (**Acts of Apostles 4:4**)
- The next day there took place in Jerusalem the gathering together of their rulers and older men and scribes. (**Acts of Apostles 4:5**)
- Also Annas the chief priest and Caiaphas and John and Alexander and as many as were of the chief priests kinsfolk. (**Acts of Apostles 4:6**)
- And they stood them in their midst and began to inquire; By what power or in whose name did you do this? (**Acts of Apostles 4:7**)
- Then **Peter**, filled with Holy Spirit, said to them; Rulers of the people and older men. (**Acts of Apostles 4:8**)

- If we are this day being examined, on the basis of a good deed to an ailing man, as to by whom this man has been made well. (**Acts of Apostles 4:9**)
- Let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel, that in the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, whom you impaled but whom God raised up from the dead, by this one does this man stand here sound in front of you. (**Acts of Apostles 4:10**)
- This is the stone that was treated by you builders as of no account that has become the head of the corner. (**Acts of Apostles 4:11**)
- Furthermore, there is no salvation in anyone else, for there is not another name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must get saved. (**Acts of Apostles 4:12**)
- Now when they beheld the outspokenness of **Peter** and John, and perceived that they were men unlettered and ordinary, they got to wondering. And they began to recognize about them that they used to be with Jesus. (**Acts of Apostles 4:13**)
- And as they were looking at the man that had been cured standing with them, they had nothing to say in rebuttal. (**Acts of Apostles 4:14**)
- So they commanded them to go outside the Sanhedrin hall, and they began consulting with one another. (**Acts of Apostles 4:15**)
- Saying; What shall we do with these men? Because, for a fact, a noteworthy sign has occurred through them, one manifest to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and we cannot deny it. (**Acts of Apostles 4:16**)
- Nevertheless, in order, that it may not be spread abroad further among the people, let us tell them with threats not to speak anymore upon the basis of this name to any man at all. (**Acts of Apostles 4:17**)
- With that they called them and charged them, nowhere to make any utterance or to teach upon the basis of the name of Jesus. (**Acts of Apostles 4:18**)
- But in reply **Peter** and John said to them; Whether it is righteous

- in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, judge for yourselves. ([Acts of Apostles 4:19](#))
- But as for us, we cannot stop speaking about the things we have seen and heard. ([Acts of Apostles 4:20](#))
 - So, when they had further threatened them, they released them, since they did not find any ground on which to punish them and on account of the people, because they were all glorifying God over what had occurred. ([Acts of Apostles 4:21](#))
 - And on a second occasion he acted as spokesman for all the apostles before the Sanhedrin, firmly declaring their determination to obey God as ruler rather than men who opposed God's will.
 - But the High Priest and all those with him, the then existing sect of the Sadducees, rose and became filled with jealousy. ([Acts of Apostles 5:17](#))
 - And they laid hands upon the apostles and put them in the public place of custody. ([Acts of Apostles 5:18](#))
 - But during the night Yehowah's angel opened the doors of the prison, brought them out and said. ([Acts of Apostles 5:19](#))
 - Be on your way, and, having taken a stand in the temple, keep on speaking to the people all the sayings about this life. ([Acts of Apostles 5:20](#))
 - After hearing this, they entered into the temple at daybreak and began to teach. Now when the High Priest and those with him arrived, they called together the Sanhedrin and all the assembly of older men of the sons of Israel, and they sent out to the jail to have them brought. ([Acts of Apostles 5:21](#))
 - But when the officers got there they did not find them in the prison. So they returned and made report. ([Acts of Apostles 5:22](#))
 - Saying; The jail we found locked with all security and the guards standing at the doors, but on opening up we found no one inside. ([Acts of Apostles 5:23](#))
 - Well, when both the captain of the temple and the chief priests

- heard these words, they fell into a quandary over these matters as to what this would come to. ([Acts of Apostles 5:24](#))
- But a certain man arrived and reported to them; Look! The men you put in the prison are in the temple, standing and teaching the people. ([Acts of Apostles 5:25](#))
 - Then the captain went off with his officers and proceeded to bring them, but without violence, as they were afraid of being stoned by the people. ([Acts of Apostles 5:26](#))
 - So they brought them and stood them in the Sanhedrin hall. And the High Priest questioned them ([Acts of Apostles 5:27](#))
 - And said; We positively ordered you not to keep teaching upon the basis of this name, and yet, look! You have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you are determined to bring the blood of this man upon us. ([Acts of Apostles 5:28](#))
 - In answer **Peter** and the other apostles said; We must obey God as ruler rather than men. ([Acts of Apostles 5:29](#))
 - The God of our forefathers raised up Jesus, whom you slew, hanging him upon a stake. ([Acts of Apostles 5:30](#))
 - God exalted this one as Chief Agent and Savior to his right hand, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ([Acts of Apostles 5:31](#))
 - **Peter** must have found particularly great satisfaction in being able to show such a change in attitude from that night when he denied Jesus and also in being able to endure the flogging meted out by the rulers.
 - At this they gave heed to him, and they summoned the apostles, flogged them, and ordered them to stop speaking upon the basis of Jesus name, and let them go. ([Acts of Apostles 5:40](#))
 - These, therefore, went their way from before the Sanhedrin, rejoicing because they had been counted worthy to be dishonored in behalf of his name. ([Acts of Apostles 5:41](#))
 - And every day in the temple and from house to house they continued without letup teaching and declaring the Good News

about the Christ, Jesus. (**Acts of Apostles 5:42**)

- Prior to his second arrest, **Peter** had been inspired to expose the hypocrisy of Ananias and Sapphira and pronounce God's judgment upon them.
- However, a certain man, Ananias by name, together with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession. (**Acts of Apostles 5:1**)
- And secretly held back some of the price, his wife also knowing about it, and he brought just a part and deposited it at the feet of the apostles. (**Acts of Apostles 5:2**)
- But **Peter** said; Ananias, why has Satan emboldened you to play false to the Holy Spirit and to hold back secretly some of the price of the field? (**Acts of Apostles 5:3**)
- As long as it remained with you did it not remain yours, and after it was sold did it not continue in your control? Why was it that you purposed such a deed as this in your heart? You have played false, not to men, but to God. (**Acts of Apostles 5:4**)
- On hearing these words Ananias fell down and expired. And great fear came over all those hearing of it. (**Acts of Apostles 5:5**)
- But the younger men rose, wrapped him in cloths, and carried him out and buried him. (**Acts of Apostles 5:6**)
- Now after an interval of about three hours his wife came in, not knowing what had happened. (**Acts of Apostles 5:7**)
- **Peter** said to her; Tell me, did you two sell the field for so much? She said; Yes, for so much. (**Acts of Apostles 5:8**)
- So **Peter** said to her; Why was it agreed upon between you two to make a test of the spirit of Yehowah? Look! The feet of those who buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out. (**Acts of Apostles 5:9**)
- Instantly she fell down at his feet and expired. When the young men came in they found her dead, and they carried her out and buried her alongside her husband. (**Acts of Apostles 5:10**)
- Consequently great fear came over the whole congregation and

over all those hearing about these things. ([Acts of Apostles 5:11](#))

- Not long after the martyrdom of Stephen, when Philip, the evangelizer, had aided and baptized a number of believers in Samaria, Peter and John traveled there to enable these believers to receive the Holy Spirit.
- There Peter used the second key of the kingdom. Then on their return to Jerusalem, the two apostles went declaring the Good News to many Samaritan villages.
- Philip, for one, went down to the city of Samaria and began to preach the Christ to them. ([Acts of Apostles 8:5](#))
- With one accord the crowds were paying attention to the things said by Philip while they listened and looked at the signs he was performing. ([Acts of Apostles 8:6](#))
- For there were many that had unclean spirits, and these would cry out with a loud voice and come out. Moreover, many that were paralyzed and lame were cured. ([Acts of Apostles 8:7](#))
- So there came to be a great deal of joy in that city. ([Acts of Apostles 8:8](#))
- Now in the city there was a certain man named Simon, who, prior to this, had been practicing magical arts and amazing the nation of Samaria, saying he himself was somebody great. ([Acts of Apostles 8:9](#))
- And all of them, from the least to the greatest, would pay attention to him and say; This man is the Power of God, which can be called Great. ([Acts of Apostles 8:10](#))
- So they would pay attention to him because of his having amazed them for quite a while by his magical arts. ([Acts of Apostles 8:11](#))
- But when they believed Philip, who was declaring the Good News of the kingdom of God and of the name of Jesus Christ, they proceeded to be baptized, both men and women. ([Acts of Apostles 8:12](#))
- Simon himself also became a believer, and, after being baptized, he was in constant attendance upon Philip, and he was amazed

- at beholding signs and great powerful works taking place. (**Acts of Apostles 8:13**)
- When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they dispatched **Peter** and John to them. (**Acts of Apostles 8:14**)
 - And these went down and prayed for them to get Holy Spirit. (**Acts of Apostles 8:15**)
 - For it had not yet fallen upon any one of them, but they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. (**Acts of Apostles 8:16**)
 - Then they went laying their hands upon them, and they began to receive Holy Spirit. (**Acts of Apostles 8:17**)
 - Now when **Simon** saw that through the laying on of the hands of the apostles the spirit was given, he offered them money. (**Acts of Apostles 8:18**)
 - Saying; Give me also this authority, that anyone upon whom I lay my hands may receive Holy Spirit. (**Acts of Apostles 8:19**)
 - But **Peter** said to him; May your silver perish with you, because you thought through money to get possession of the free gift of God. (**Acts of Apostles 8:20**)
 - You have neither part nor lot in this matter, for your heart is not straight in the sight of God. (**Acts of Apostles 8:21**)
 - Repent, therefore, of this badness of yours, and supplicate Yehowah that, if possible, the device of your heart may be forgiven you. (**Acts of Apostles 8:22**)
 - For I see you are a poisonous gall and a bond of unrighteousness. (**Acts of Apostles 8:23**)
 - In answer Simon said; You men, make supplication for me to Yehowah that none of the things you have said may come upon me. (**Acts of Apostles 8:24**)
 - Therefore, when they had given the witness thoroughly and had spoken the word of Yehowah, they turned back to Jerusalem, and

they went declaring the Good News to many villages of the Samaritans. ([Acts of Apostles 8:25](#))

- **Peter** evidently went out again on a mission during which, at Lydda, he healed Aeneas, who had been paralyzed for eight years, and he resurrected the woman Dorcas of Joppa.
- Now as **Peter** was going through all parts he came down also to the holy ones that dwelt in Lydda. ([Acts of Apostles 9:32](#))
- There he found a certain man named Aeneas, who had been lying flat on his cot for eight years, as he was paralyzed. ([Acts of Apostles 9:33](#))
- And **Peter** said to him; Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you. Rise and make up your bed. And he rose immediately. ([Acts of Apostles 9:34](#))
- And all those who inhabited Lydda and the plain of Sharon saw him, and these turned to the Lord. ([Acts of Apostles 9:35](#))
- But in Joppa there was a certain disciple named Tabitha, which, when translated, means Dorcas. She abounded in good deeds and gifts of mercy that she was rendering. ([Acts of Apostles 9:36](#))
- But in those days she happened to fall sick and die. So they bathed her and laid her in an upper chamber. ([Acts of Apostles 9:37](#))
- Now as Lydda was near Joppa, when the disciples heard that **Peter** was in this city they dispatched two men to him to entreat him; Please do not hesitate to come on as far as us. ([Acts of Apostles 9:38](#))
- At that **Peter** rose and went with them. And when he arrived, they led him up into the upper chamber, and all the widows presented themselves to him weeping and exhibiting many inner garments and outer garments that Dorcas used to make while she was with them. ([Acts of Apostles 9:39](#))
- But **Peter** put everybody outside and, bending his knees, he prayed, and, turning to the body, he said; Tabitha, rise! She opened her eyes and, as she caught sight of Peter, she sat up.

(Acts of Apostles 9:40)

- Giving her his hand, he raised her up, and he called the holy ones and the widows and presented her alive. **(Acts of Apostles 9:41)**
- This became known throughout all Joppa, and many became believers on the Lord. **(Acts of Apostles 9:42)**
- For quite a few days he remained in Joppa with a certain Simon, a tanner. **(Acts of Apostles 9:43)**
- From Joppa, **Peter** was guided to use the third key of the kingdom, traveling to Caesarea to preach to Cornelius and his relatives and friends, resulting in their becoming the first uncircumcised Gentile believers to receive the Holy Spirit as Kingdom heirs.
- Upon his return to Jerusalem, **Peter** had to face opposers of this action, but they acquiesced after he presented the evidence that he had acted at heavens direction.
- Now in Caesarea there was a certain man named Cornelius, an army officer of the Italian band, as it was called. **(Acts of Apostles 10:1)**
- Now when they heard these things, they acquiesced, and they glorified God, saying; Well, then, God has granted repentance for the purpose of life to people of the nations also. **(Acts of Apostles 11:18)**
- I will give you the keys of the kingdom of the heavens, and whatever you may bind on earth will be the thing bound in the heavens, and whatever you may loose on earth will be the thing loosed in the heavens. **(Matthew 16:19)**
- It may have been about this same year **36 C.E.** that Paul made his first visit to Jerusalem as a Christian convert and apostle. He went to visit **Cephas, Peter**, spending 15 days with him, seeing also James, the half brother of Jesus, but none of the other original apostles.
- Then three years later I went up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas, and I stayed with him for fifteen days. **(Galatians 1:18)**
- But I saw no one else of the apostles, only James the brother of the Lord. **(Galatians 1:19)**

See Also APOSTLE (Congregational Apostleships)

- According to available evidence, it was in **44 C.E.** that Herod Agrippa I executed the apostle James and, finding this pleased the Jewish leaders, next arrested **Peter**.
- About that particular time Herod the king applied his hands to mistreating some of those of the congregation. (**Acts of Apostles 12:1**)
- He did away with James the brother of John by the sword. (**Acts of Apostles 12:2**)
- As he saw it was pleasing to the Jews, he went on to arrest **Peter** also. As it was, those were days of the unfermented cakes. (**Acts of Apostles 12:3**)
- And laying hold of him, he put him in prison, turning him over to four shifts of four soldiers each to guard him, as he intended to produce him for the people after the Passover. (**Acts of Apostles 12:4**)
- Intense prayer was carried on by the congregation for **Peter**, and Yehowah's angel freed him from prison, and probable death. After relating his miraculous release to those at John Marks home, **Peter** asked that a report be made to James and the brothers, and then **Peter** journeyed to another place.
- Consequently **Peter** was being kept in the prison, but prayer to God for him was being carried on intensely by the congregation. (**Acts of Apostles 12:5**)
- Now when Herod was about to produce him, that night **Peter** was sleeping bound with two chains between two soldiers, and guards before the door were keeping the prison. (**Acts of Apostles 12:6**)
- But, look! Yehowah's angel stood by, and a light shone in the prison cell. Striking **Peter** on the side, he roused him, saying; Rise quickly! And his chains fell off his hands. (**Acts of Apostles 12:7**)
- The angel said to him; Gird yourself and bind your sandals on.

He did so. Finally he said to him; Put your outer garment on and keep following me. (**Acts of Apostles 12:8**)

- And he went out and kept following him, but he did not know that what was happening through the angel was real. In fact, he supposed he was seeing a vision. (**Acts of Apostles 12:9**)
- Going through the first sentinel guard and the second they got to the iron gate leading into the city, and this opened to them of its own accord. And after they went out they advanced down one street, and immediately the angel departed from him. (**Acts of Apostles 12:10**)
- And **Peter**, coming to himself, said; Now I actually know that Yehowah sent his angel forth and delivered me out of Herod's hand and from all that the people of the Jews were expecting. (**Acts of Apostles 12:11**)
- And after he considered it, he went to the house of Mary the mother of John who was surnamed Mark, where quite a few were gathered together and praying. (**Acts of Apostles 12:12**)
- When he knocked at the door of the gateway, a servant girl named Rhoda came to attend to the call. (**Acts of Apostles 12:13**)
- And, upon recognizing the voice of **Peter**, out of joy she did not open the gate, but ran inside and reported that Peter was standing before the gateway. (**Acts of Apostles 12:14**)
- They said to her; You are mad. But she kept on strongly asserting it was so. They began to say; It is his angel. (**Acts of Apostles 12:15**)
- But **Peter** remained there knocking. When they opened, they saw him and were astonished. (**Acts of Apostles 12:16**)
- But he motioned to them with his hand to be silent and told them in detail how Yehowah brought him out of the prison, and he said; Report these things to James and the brothers. With that he went out and journeyed to another place. (**Acts of Apostles 12:17**)
- Now after these things Jesus continued walking about in Galilee, for he did not want to walk about in Judea, because the Jews

- were seeking to kill him. ([John 7:1](#))
- Therefore from that day on they took counsel to kill him. ([John 11:53](#))
 - Hence Jesus no longer walked about publicly among the Jews, but he departed from there to the country near the wilderness, into a city called Ephraim, and there he remained with the disciples. ([John 11:54](#))
 - He next appears in the Acts account at the assembly of apostles and the older men held in Jerusalem to consider the issue of circumcision for Gentile converts, likely in the year **49 C.E.**
 - After considerable disputing had gone on, **Peter** rose and gave testimony as to God's dealings with Gentile believers. That the entire multitude became silent gives evidence of the strength of his argument and, likely, also of the respect in which he was held.
 - Peter, like Paul and Barnabas whose testimony followed his, was in effect on the witness stand before the assembly.
 - And certain men came down from Judea and began to teach the brothers; Unless you get circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved. ([Acts of Apostles 15:1](#))
 - But when there had occurred no little dissension and disputing by Paul and Barnabas with them, they arranged for Paul and Barnabas and some others of them to go up to the apostles and older men in Jerusalem regarding this dispute. ([Acts of Apostles 15:2](#))
 - Accordingly, after being conducted partway by the congregation, these men continued on their way through both Phoenicia and Samaria, relating in detail the conversion of people of the nations, and they were causing great joy to all the brothers. ([Acts of Apostles 15:3](#))
 - On arriving in Jerusalem they were kindly received by the congregation and the apostles and the older men, and they recounted the many things God had done by means of them. ([Acts of Apostles 15:4](#))
 - Yet, some of those of the sect of the Pharisees that had believed

- rose up from their seats and said; It is necessary to circumcise them and charge them to observe the Law of Moses. ([Acts of Apostles 15:5](#))
- And the apostles and the older men gathered together to see about this affair. ([Acts of Apostles 15:6](#))
 - Now when much disputing had taken place, **Peter** rose and said to them; Men, brothers, you well know that from early days God made the choice among you that through my mouth people of the nations should hear the word of the Good News and believe. ([Acts of Apostles 15:7](#))
 - And God, who knows the heart, bore witness by giving them the Holy Spirit, just as he did to us also. ([Acts of Apostles 15:8](#))
 - And he made no distinction at all between us and them, but purified their hearts by faith. ([Acts of Apostles 15:9](#))
 - Now, therefore, why are you making a test of God by imposing upon the neck of the disciples a yoke that neither our forefathers nor we were capable of bearing? ([Acts of Apostles 15:10](#))
 - On the contrary, we trust to get saved through the undeserved kindness of the Lord Jesus in the same way as those people also. ([Acts of Apostles 15:11](#))
 - At that the entire multitude became silent, and they began to listen to Barnabas and Paul relate the many signs and portents that God did through them among the nations. ([Acts of Apostles 15:12](#))
 - After they quit speaking, James answered, saying; Men, brothers, hear me. ([Acts of Apostles 15:13](#))
 - Symeon has related thoroughly how God for the first time turned his attention to the nations to take out of them a people for his name. ([Acts of Apostles 15:14](#))
 - And with this the words of the Prophets agree, just as it is written. ([Acts of Apostles 15:15](#))
 - After these things I shall return and rebuild the booth of David that is fallen down, and I shall rebuild its ruins and erect it again.

(Acts of Apostles 15:16)

- **In order, that those who remain of the men may earnestly seek Yehowah, together with people of all the nations, people who are called by my name, says Yehowah, who is doing these things. (Acts of Apostles 15:17)**
- **Known from of old. (Acts of Apostles 15:18)**
- **Hence my decision is not to trouble those from the nations who are turning to God. (Acts of Apostles 15:19)**
- **But to write them to abstain from things polluted by idols and from fornication and from what is strangled and from blood. (Acts of Apostles 15:20)**
- **For from ancient times Moses has had in city after city those who preach him, because he is read aloud in the synagogues on every Sabbath. (Acts of Apostles 15:21)**
- **Then the apostles and the older men together with the whole congregation favored sending chosen men from among them to Antioch along with Paul and Barnabas, namely, Judas who was called Barsabbas and Silas, leading men among the brothers. (Acts of Apostles 15:22)**
- **And by their hand they wrote. The apostles and the older men, brothers, to those brothers in Antioch and Syria and Cilicia who are from the nations, Greetings! (Acts of Apostles 15:23)**
- **Since we have heard that some from among us have caused you trouble with speeches, trying to subvert your souls, although we did not give them any instructions. (Acts of Apostles 15:24)**
- **We have come to a unanimous accord and have favored choosing men to send to you together with our loved ones, Barnabas and Paul. (Acts of Apostles 15:25)**
- **Men that have delivered up their souls for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. (Acts of Apostles 15:26)**
- **We are therefore dispatching Judas and Silas, that they also may report the same things by word. (Acts of Apostles 15:27)**

- For the Holy Spirit and we ourselves have favored adding no further burden to you, except these necessary things. (**Acts of Apostles 15:28**)
- To keep abstaining from things sacrificed to idols and from blood and from things strangled and from fornication. If you carefully keep yourselves from these things, you will prosper. Good health to you! (**Acts of Apostles 15:29**)
- Evidently with reference to that time, Paul speaks of **Peter** along with James and John as, outstanding men, the ones who seemed to be pillars in the congregation.
- Then after fourteen years I again went up to Jerusalem with Barnabas, taking also Titus along with me. (**Galatians 2:1**)
- But I went up as a result of a revelation. And I laid before them the Good News which I am preaching among the nations, privately, however, before those who were outstanding men, for fear that somehow I was running or had run in vain. (**Galatians 2:2**)
- But on the part of those who seemed to be something, whatever sort of men they formerly were makes no difference to me, God does not go by a man's outward appearance, to me, in fact, those outstanding men imparted nothing new. (**Galatians 2:6**)
- But, on the contrary, when they saw that I had entrusted to me the Good News for those who are uncircumcised, just as **Peter** had it for those who are circumcised. (**Galatians 2:7**)
- For He who gave **Peter** powers necessary for an apostleship to those who are circumcised gave powers also to me for those who are of the nations. (**Galatians 2:8**)
- Yes, when they came to know the undeserved kindness that was given me, James and **Cephas** and John, the ones who seemed to be pillars, gave me and Barnabas the right hand of sharing together, that we should go to the nations, but they to those who are circumcised. (**Galatians 2:9**)
- From the record as a whole it is evident that **Peter**, while certainly very prominent and respected, exercised no primacy over the apostles in the sense of, or on the basis of, appointed rank or office.

- Thus, when Philip's work in Samaria proved fruitful, the account states that the apostles, apparently acting as a body, dispatched **Peter** and John on the mission to Samaria.
- When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they dispatched **Peter** and John to them. (**Acts of Apostles 8:14**)
- **Peter** did not remain permanently at Jerusalem as though his presence were essential for the proper government of the Christian congregation.
- Therefore, when they had given the witness thoroughly and had spoken the word of Yehowah, they turned back to Jerusalem, and they went declaring the Good News to many villages of the Samaritans. (**Acts of Apostles 8:25**)
- Now as **Peter** was going through all parts he came down also to the holy ones that dwelt in Lydda. (**Acts of Apostles 9:32**)
- But he motioned to them with his hand to be silent and told them in detail how Yehowah brought him out of the prison, and he said; Report these things to James and the brothers. With that he went out and journeyed to another place. (**Acts of Apostles 12:17**)
- He was active in Antioch, Syria, at the same time that Paul was there, and Paul once found it necessary to reprove **Peter**, **Cephas**, face to face before them all because of **Peter's** being ashamed to eat and similarly associate with Gentile Christians because of the presence of certain Jewish Christians who had come from James in Jerusalem.
- However, when Cephas came to Antioch, I resisted him face to face, because he stood condemned. (**Galatians 2:11**)
- For before the arrival of certain men from James, he used to eat with people of the nations, but when they arrived, he went withdrawing and separating himself, in fear of those of the circumcised class. (**Galatians 2:12**)
- The rest of the Jews also joined him in putting on this pretense, so that even Barnabas was led along with them in their pretense. (**Galatians 2:13**)

- **But when I saw they were not walking straight according to the truth of the Good News, I said to Cephas before them all; If you, though you are a Jew, live as the nations do, and not as Jews do, how is it that you are compelling people of the nations to live according to Jewish practice? ([Galatians 2:14](#))**

See Also OLDER MAN

See Also OVERSEER

- **Further information on the question of **Peter's** position in the Christian congregation is provided under **ROCK-MASS**. The view that Peter was in Rome and headed the congregation there has only dubious tradition for its support and does not harmonize well with the Scriptural indications. On this point, and with regard to **Peter's** residing in Babylon and its being the site from which he wrote his two letters.**

See Also PETER, LETTERS OF

See Also ROCK-MASS