

PETER...

Heart of Gold...

Feet of Clay!

Besides his  
“Mountain-Top” experiences,  
Peter also had some  
deep “valleys” ...  
times when he “failed  
miserably”!

## Peter's "Valleys" ...

- His Rebuke of the Lord, Matthew 16:21-23.
  - ✓ Note the context, vv. 13-20!
  - ✓ Remember Elijah! I Kings 18-19!
  - ✓ Beware of a "fall," after a spiritual victory!

## Peter's "Valleys" ...

- His Rebuke of the Lord, Matthew 16:21-23.

Peter...

- ✓ Thought that he knew more than God!!
- ✓ Took it upon himself to correct Jesus!!!
- ✓ Allowed himself to become a tool of Satan!
- ✓ Was "setting his mind on the things of men rather than on the things of God."

Look at Colossians 3:1-2, 16

How might we be in danger of “setting our mind on the things of men rather than on the things of God.”

- ❖ Evolution! “Everyone knows it is true! Science has proven it!”
- ❖ Sexual Immorality! “Everyone is doing it!”
- ❖ Same-Sex Marriage! “You can’t help who you fall in love with!”
- ❖ Compromising Integrity! “If it doesn’t hurt anybody & nobody finds out, then it isn’t wrong!”

How might we be in danger of “setting our mind on the things of men rather than on the things of God.”

❖ Trying to be popular with people rather than pleasing to God! Galatians 1:10!

“For am I now seeking the favor of men, or of God?

Or am I striving to please men?

If I were still trying to please men,  
I would not be a bond-servant of Christ.”

## Peter's "Valleys" ...

- AT the Transfiguration, Luke 9:28-36.
  - ✓ He falls asleep!
  - ✓ He makes a recommendation that he (probably) expected to be received gratefully.
  - ✓ His recommendation actually was an insult to Jesus!

God the Father corrects him!

## Peter's "Valleys" ...

- In the Garden of Gethsemane, Matthew 26:37-46.
  - ✓ Three times, Jesus tells them to pray, and...three times...they...including Peter...fall asleep!
    - ❖ We don't always pray as we should!
    - ❖ We...aren't always faithful!
    - ❖ We don't always learn from our mistakes!

## Peter's "Valleys" ...

- Peter's Denials of Jesus! Matthew 26:47-75.

**MAJOR FAILURE!!!**

# “Autopsy” of A “Fall”:

Details of the Fall: Peter’s Denial, Matthew 26:47-75.

# “Autopsy” of A “Fall”:

## Causes of the Fall--Peter’s Denial.

- Preceded by “smaller” failures.
- Pride!
- Failure to heed warnings!
- Failure to believe and follow God’s Word!
- Following God from afar. Mt. 26:57-58.
- Fear!
- Fear of man!

## Recovering from a Serious Fall:

- Awareness!
- Grief and Anguish of soul!
- Repentance/Confession of sin!
- Knowing that God is gracious and willing to forgive!
- **ACCEPTING** God's Forgiveness!
- Growing from it and moving beyond it!

With all of Peter's Failures...

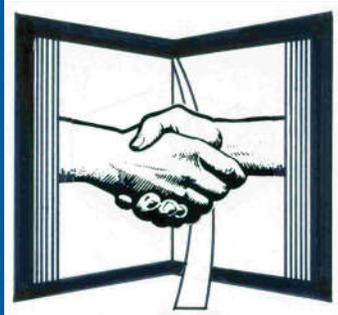
God still loved him!

God forgave him!

God still used him!

**Just like He will for you and me**

**In spite of our failures!!**



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