

PETER

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- Originally Simeon, or Simon, (Cephas, a stone - Peter, a rock). Peter Greek *petros* (rock), Symon is his Hebrew name.
- The son of Jonas (Jonah) and a native of Bethsaida.
- He was married (his wife's name was Concordia?)
Matthew 8:14- 5; Mark 1:30-31 info Smiths Bible dictionary and The Pictorial Bible dictionary
- Lived with his mother-in-law, at Capernaum.
- He heard at the time of his call to follow Jesus.

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- He was a fisherman, and was fishing with his father and brother Andrew, when Jesus found him.
- Matthew 4:18, "And Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers"
- Matthew 10:2, "Now the names of the twelve apostles are these; The first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother"
- Luke 6:14, "Simon, (whom he also named Peter,) and Andrew his brother, James and John, Philip and Bartholomew"
- Peter and his brother Andrew were, probably, disciples of John the Baptist.
- Peter, James and John, only of the twelve, were witnesses of the transfiguration and the agony in Gethsemane.

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- Peter walked on the Sea of Galilee, but his heart failed, and he cried for help.
- He frequently declared his faith in Jesus, although he was disappointed that the Christ was not the temporal prince that the Jews had looked for.

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- It seems that Peter was more intimate than any of the other apostles with Jesus, for the tax collector asked him if his Master paid tribute; and to him and John was given the duty of providing the Lamb for the passover supper, although Judas carried the purse.

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- He first refused to have Jesus wash his feet; but when he learned that it was a symbol, he wished to have his hands and head washed also.

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- **The Transfiguration** (Matthew 17:1-9, Mark 9:2-10, Luke 9:27-36). About a week after Peter made the good confession, Jesus took Peter, James, and John up on a high mountain and was transfigured before them. He underwent a change in His appearance. *"His face shone like the sun"* (Matthew 17:2), and *"His clothes became shining, exceedingly white, like snow, such as no launderer on earth can whiten them"* (Mark 9:2). For a brief moment, these three men were allowed to see the proof of Peter's confession – that Jesus was indeed the divine Son of God.
- Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Jesus about His death (Luke 9:31). In his fear and confusion, Peter suggested honoring all three men equally by building three tabernacles for them. God spoke out of the cloud, telling Peter, James, and John to listen to His Son. After the event, Jesus commanded them not to speak of it until after He had risen from the dead.

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- He boldly and vauntingly avowed his attachment to Jesus, and offered to lay down his life for him, and then disgracefully denied him the same day, and wept bitterly when conscious of what he had done. Jesus forgave him, accepted his renewed professions, and gave him a new commission to work in his cause.
- Offence
- Matthew 26:33-35, "33 **Peter** answered and said unto him, Though all *men* shall be offended because of thee, *yet* will I never be offended ... 35 **Peter** said unto him, Though I should die with thee, yet will I not deny thee. Likewise also said all the disciples."
- Mark 14:29, "But **Peter** said unto him, Although all shall be offended, yet *will* not I."

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- After this time his character changed. Instead of a hasty zeal, he showed a sober dignity.
- Acts 1:15, "And in those days **Peter** stood up in the midst of the disciples, and said, (the number of names together were about an hundred and twenty)"
- Acts 2:14, "But **Peter**, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words"
- He first proclaimed salvation through a crucified Savior, and when arrested with the others, boldly declared his faith and purpose before the Sanhedrin.

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- He, by a miracle, punished with death two who tried an experiment on the omniscience of the Holy Spirit: rebuked Simon the magician, at Samaria, who wished to buy the secret of working miracles.

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- At Joppa he was taught, in a vision, that the ancient ritual distinctions of clean and unclean were abolished. Acts 10
- Herod put him in prison at Jerusalem and he was released by an angel. He first advocated an exemption from the ceremonial law of Moses. Acts 12:6

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- Paul rebuked him for timidly dissembling on the question of equality of the Jews and Gentiles at Antioch.
- Galatians 2:11, "But when **Peter** was come to Antioch, I withstood him to the face, because he was to be blamed"

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- Here the Gospel history ends, and we have tradition only for the rest of his life, which says that he traveled (as Paul did) among the cities and churches to which his epistles are addressed, in Pontus, Galatia, Bithynia, Cappadocia, and Asia; that he visited Rome, and was an elder and suffered martyrdom under Nero, being crucified with his head downward.

CONCLUSION

- We need to appreciate Peter and the apostles for the roles that they played in establishing the church, spreading the gospel, strengthening their brethren, and confronting the error that existed in their day.

INVITATION/ The Plan of SALVATION

- HEAR – Learn/Believe – Romans 10:13-15
- BELIEVE – Be Devoted – Mark 16:15-16
- REPENT – Renew the Mind – Acts 3:19
- CONFESS – Faith to Commit – Romans 10:6-12
- BE BAPTIZED – Enter the Kingdom – Acts 22:16
- BE FAITHFUL – Disciple in Christ – Ephesians 2:1-5