

John 21:15-25

Peter 2: Peter in Acts

Restored ...

I. Renovated Zeal

- A. Directly Tasked
- B. Divinely Equipped
- C. Distinctly Wired

II. Unreserved Preaching

- A. Christ
- B. At Any Cost
- C. With Mixed Reviews

III. Anticipated Martyrdom

- A. The Words of Jesus
- B. The Work of Evil Men
- C. The Witness of a Saint

... rewarded.

Children, Listen ...

1. How did Peter become such a bold Christian?
2. Was he afraid to tell people the truth about themselves and Jesus? How do you know?
3. How did Peter know that he was going to die as a martyr for Jesus some day?
4. How do you think Peter and other martyrs are able to face death?

Peter's Cross

The transformation in Peter from the Gospel accounts to the Book of Acts is astounding. He had always been impetuous and often quite bold for better or worse. But he cowered when he saw his preconceived notion of the kingdom of God collapse when Jesus was arrested. When Luke opens his second book, we find Peter, along with the others waiting in Jerusalem for the Holy Spirit. They had already seen the living Christ and then they would see Him ascend into Heaven. Then came the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost and suddenly we find a re-tooled Peter preaching boldly to enemies of Christ in the public square – and he keeps it up to the end. Sometimes his message was well received, others not so much. Either way he knew that he always faced death as per Jesus' words to him before he ascended. Nonetheless Peter pressed on boldly, his boldness now sanctified for thoroughgoing Kingdom work. One day he would face those who would murder him for his faith. Tradition holds that he faced crucifixion, but unwilling to be "dignified" to die the way Jesus did he requested to be crucified upside down in order to display his subservience to Christ.