

“Peter the Prototype”

**“And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”
(Matthew 16:18)**

Phase One: Breaking Down

Luke 22:31-34 – ³¹ “Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you, that he might sift you like wheat, ³² but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned again, strengthen your brothers.”

³³ Peter said to him, ‘Lord, I am ready to go with you both to prison and to death.’ ³⁴ Jesus said, ‘I tell you, Peter, the rooster will not crow this day, until you deny three times that you know me.’”

Luke 22:59-62 – ⁵⁹ “And after an interval of about an hour still another insisted, saying, ‘Certainly this man also was with him, for he too is a Galilean.’ ⁶⁰ But Peter said, ‘Man, I do not know what you are talking about.’ And immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed. ⁶¹ And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the saying of the Lord, how he had said to him, ‘Before the rooster crows today, you will deny me three times.’ ⁶² And he went out and wept bitterly.”

Phase Two: Building Up

Mark 16:6-7 – ⁶ “And he said to them, ‘Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him. ⁷ But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.”

Acts 2:14 – “But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: ‘Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words.’”

Thoughts to Ponder:

(1) God breaks us down to build us up healthier than before

1 Peter 1:6-7 – “In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.”

(2) God breaks us down to build up others (Luke 22:32)

John 21:15 – “When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, ‘Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?’ He said to him, ‘Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.’ He said to him, ‘Feed my lambs.’”

(3) “For (*God*) does not enjoy hurting people or causing them sorrow.”
(Lamentations 3:33 NLT)

(4) “He who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, but he on whom it falls will be crushed.” (Matthew 21:44 NIV)

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)

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