

“A MAN CALLED PETER”

I. HIS BACKGROUND.

- a. Occupation-fisherman. (Matt. 4:18)
- b. Introduced to Jesus. (John 1:40-42)
- c. Chosen as “follower”. (Matt.4:18-20)
- d. Chosen as one of 12 apostles. (Matt.10:2-4)
- e. Married. (Matt. 8:14)
- f. Education. (Acts 4:13)

II. HIS CHARACTER AND NATURE.

- a. His Loyalty.
 - i. Not as firm at the first. (John 13:33-38).
 - ii. Spoke on behalf of the 12. (Matt. 16:16).
 - iii. Drew sword and cut off ear of high priest’s servant (John 18:10).
 - iv. One of first of the apostles to witness the resurrection of Jesus. (I Corinth. 15:5; Luke 24:33-34).
- b. His Leadership.
 - i. Seemed to be their leader on numerous occasions.
 - ii. Named first in every list of the 12 (Matt. Mark, Luke and Acts).
 - iii. Was common spokesman for the 12:
 1. Matt. 16:13ff—Christ said, “Who am I?”
 2. Matt. 18:21—asked questions of the Lord.
 3. John 21:3—“I go a fishing.”
 - iv. Member of the “inner circle”:
 1. Mark 5:37ff—the raising of daughter of ruler of snagaogue.
 2. Matt. 17:1ff—the transfiguration.
 3. Matt. 26:37—the Lord’s agony in Gethsemane.
 - v. In establishment and growth of the church:
 1. Acts 1:15ff—replacement of Judas.
 2. Acts 2—preached first gospel sermon to the Jews.
 3. Acts 10 and 11 (Note 10:34-35)—first to formally preach gospel to the Gentiles.
 4. Acts 3—along with John, healed lame beggar.
 5. I Peter 5:1ff—became an elder of the church.
- c. His Love for God and God’s Word.
 - i. Acts 4:13-20—“For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.”
 - ii. Acts 5:17-29—“We ought to obey God rather than men.”

III. CONCLUSION.

- a. “A MAN CALLED PETER”—TRULY A MAN OF CONTRASTS.
 - i. His Loyalty—firm but at times faltered.
 - ii. His Leadership—bold and fearless in his preaching.
 - iii. His Love for God and God’s Word.