

The Transformation of Simon Peter

John 20:1-10

Intro: After Jesus, the person we learn about most in the Gospels is Simon Peter. As Peter followed Jesus, he experienced dramatic—and drastic—changes in his life.

I. Simon Peter's Progress

- a. When he wanted Jesus to go away (Lk. 5:8)
- b. When he knew Jesus was the Messiah (Mt. 16:16)
- c. When he pledged to fight to the death (Lk. 22:33)

II. Simon Peter's Failures

- a. When he was afraid of the wind (Mt. 14:30)
- b. When he rebuked the Lord (Mt. 16:22)
- c. When he disowned Jesus three times (Lk. 22:54-60)

III. Peter's Transformation

- a. When he bitterly wept (Lk. 22:61-62)
- b. When he entered the empty tomb (Jn. 20:6)
- c. When he turned back to Jesus (Lk. 22:32; Jn. 21:19)

Close: It is easier to see changes from a human, even sinful viewpoint such as Peter's. In reality the transformation of Simon Peter was all Jesus' doing.

Jesus called him.

Jesus rescued him.

Jesus prayed for him.

And Jesus died on the cross for Peter's sins, rose again, and appeared to Peter and the other disciples so that they would believe in Him and bear witness to His resurrection.

Through Peter, the Apostles, and other evangelists Jesus shares His Word with us so that we also may believe in Him and find forgiveness for our sins and eternal life in Jesus' name.