

THINK ON THESE THINGS (Philippians 4:8)

The Faith of Peter

AM Sermon: Daniel Schramm

OUR FAMILY NEWS

Pray: Deb Betti, the Morigeau family, Josiah, Helen Spicer, Bill and Peggy.

Traveling/Working: Wyatt Couch, Tina Crawford, Steve and Abby

Radio Programs: Listen to "Searching the scriptures", our weekly radio program on KMBQ 99.7 Sunday mornings beginning at 9:00 AM.

Today's Scripture: "SIMON Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ:" 2 Peter 1:1 (KJV 1900)

Wisdom for Today: "A faithful man shall abound with lessings: But he that maketh haste to be rich shall not be innocent. Proverbs 28:20 (KJV 1900)

PM Sermon: Bill Beebe

Attendance Last Sunday -

For more information check our website at www.churchofchristwasilla.com

EVANGELIST

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God's Plan of Salvation

HearRomans 10:17
 BelieveMark 16:16, Hebrews 11:1-6
 Repent Acts 2:38, II Corinthians 7:10
 Confess Romans 10:9-10, Matthew 10:32-33
 Be Baptized Mark 16:16, Acts 22:16
 Remain Faithful.....Matt 24:13; Rev 2:10; James 1:12

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth..."

CONTACT INFORMATION

MEETING TIMES

Sunday:
 Bible Classes: 10AM
 AM Worship: 11AM
 PM Worship: 5PM

Wednesday:
 Bible Study: 7PM

OFFICE HOURS
 Tue./Thur. Call or Ck Web

COME JOIN US!
 The church of Christ at Wasilla meets at:
 2061 N. Merciful Circle
 Wasilla, AK 99654
 (907) 373-5773

Visit our website at:
www.churchofchristwasilla.com

Visitors Always Welcome; Members Expected

"I was glad when they said unto me, Let us

The Faith of Peter

By Bill Beebe

Sometimes we think that being a Christian when Jesus was on the earth would have been a lot easier than it seems to be today. After all, if you had seen Jesus in the flesh, talked with him and watch him perform the miracles that he did it would seem have been really easy to follow him. But let's consider Peter for a while.

He was one of the first disciples of Jesus. Peter and Andrew were fishermen by trade and were both together fishing (Matthew 4:18), when Jesus called to them to "*Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.*" (Matthew 4:19). At that invitation both men left their nets and followed Jesus. This is the beginning of a life long journey for both Peter and Andrew. But it is Peter's life that the Holy Spirit chose to give us the most information about

The gospels, the Acts of the Apostles and the writings of Peter himself give us considerable insight into his personality and faith. Peter was the only disciple of Jesus who had the faith, initially, to step out of the ship and onto the water to walk toward Jesus. But Jesus also criticized him for a lack of faith when he began look around himself and sink into the water. ³⁰*But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me.* ³¹*And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?* Matthew 14:31 (KJV 1900). In Matthew 16:16 (KJV 1900) it was Peter who had the faith to make the first confession that Jesus was the Christ, the Son of the Living God. And it was on this confession that Jesus built his church and gave Peter the Keys to it. But it was also Peter whom Jesus called "Satan"; Matthew 16:21–23 (KJV 1900) "*From that time forth began Jesus to shew unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day. Then Peter took him, and began to rebuke him, saying, Be it far from thee, Lord: this shall not be unto thee. But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offence unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men.*"

It was Peter who, with James and John went with Jesus up the mountain and witnessed his transfiguration and conversation with Moses and Elijah then heard the voice of God from the clouds saying this is my beloved son (Matthew 17:1-7). Peter, along with James and John were in the room with Jesus when He raised

go into the house of the Lord." Psalm 122:1

the 12 year old daughter of Jairus a ruler of the synagogue from the dead.

After seeing all that he saw; Jesus walking on the water, Jesus healing the blind, the deaf, the invalid, feeding thousands with only a few fish and loafs of bread, and raising Jairus's daughter and Lazarus from the dead. Peter would later publicly curse and deny Jesus "*And after a while came unto him they that stood by, and said to Peter, Surely thou also art one of them; for thy speech bewrayeth thee.*" ⁷⁴*Then began he to curse and to swear, saying, I know not the man. And immediately the cock crew.*" Matthew 26:73–74 (KJV 1900).

But Peter, whose faith seemed to vacillate from being extremely strong to so weak as to be almost non-existence, became one of the most ardent defenders Jesus and the church. We can recall that it was Peter and John who when arrested and commanded not to preach any more about Jesus asked the rulers of Jerusalem whom should they obey; "*But Peter and John answered and said unto them, Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye. For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.*" Acts 4:19–20 (KJV 1900). And it was Peter who history tells us asked to be crucified upside down because he didn't feel worthy to be crucified in the same manor as Jesus (Foxe's Book of Martyrs, Chapter 1, Section IX). So while Peter's faith vacillated early in his life, it became so strong at the end that he willingly suffered a horrible death so that he wouldn't be martyred in the same position that Jesus suffered on the cross.

While Peter had the advantage of being with Jesus in person, listening to Him teach and watching His miracles, he did not have the complete word of God that we have today. It is because we have the "perfect law of liberty" (James 1:25) that we can have a faith that rivals that of Peter. To do so, we have to have a constant and consistent, study habit. Otherwise our faith will wither and die and we may find ourselves denying Jesus like Peter once did.

Schedule of Events

Brother George Jensen will be here January 14-17, 2022 to meet with us about the possibility of working here as another Evangelist. He will teach the adult class, and preach the morning and evening sermons on January 13.

There will be a men's meeting immediately following the evening service on January 15, 2022