I) PETER'S DECEPTION (LUKE 22:31-34)

- a) v. 31a Tender Love of the Lord. "Simon, Simon"
 - i) Peter's old name, dispute earlier about who was greatest, acting like the old Simon
 - ii) Knowing of Peter fully, Seeing what was ahead that Peter had no idea of. Great Love that loved Peter even knowing he was going to fail.

b) v. 31b Terrible Enemy

- i) Looking for our Weakness
 - (1) Accuser of the Brethren, (Rev. 12:10) he accuses and seeks to cause us to stumble.

ii) Limited by the Lord

- (1) God has allowed him a certain amount of freedom to test and tempt us. (Job)
- c) v. 32 Terrific Friend
 - i) John 17:9, 15, 20
 - ii) Roma 8:34 (NKJV) Who [is] he who condemns? [It] [is] Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.
 - iii) 25 Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them Heb 7:24-25 (KJV)

d) v. 33-34 Tragic Deception

- i) Misjudged himself
 - (1) When he spoke he was sincere. Three possibilities when we speak:
 - (a) Lying, Idle words, Sincere.
 - (2) Jere 17:9 (NKJV) "The heart [is] deceitful above all [things], And desperately wicked; Who can know it?
 - (3) 1Cor 10:12 (NKJV) Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall.

- (4) "An unguarded strength is a double weakness" Oswald Chambers
 - (a) -Abraham was a man of faith but he lied about Sarah in Egypt
 - (b)-Moses was the meekest man in all the earth, but he lost his temper with the people
 - (c) -David was a man after God's own heart but he committed adultery and then murder by proxy to try and cover it up.
 - (d)-Peter was a brave man, but he denied Jesus.
 - (e) Two words, Sin and Pride, I is the center letter in each.
 - (f) Peter was dedicating himself when Jesus said to deny self.
- (5)-Stand up, Stand up for Jesus, stand in His strength alone, the arm of flesh will fail you, ye dare not trust your own....

II) PETER'S DENIAL LUKE 22:54-62

a) v. 54-55 Distance

- i) All four gospels indicate this fact that Peter followed at a distance
 - (1) Peter was doing all he could in the flesh. He was trying to follow Jesus in his own power. The spirit was willing but the flesh was weak.

b) v. 56 Denial

- i) Servant girl caused brave Peter who had walked on the water, Lord I will never desert you, drew his sword and cut off the high priest's servant's ear. Rough and Tumble fisherman who had not doubt been a few scraps before was now cowed down by a little servant girl.
- ii) Second denial. Put another nail in just to make sure it holds Matt. records "with and oath"
- iii) Third denial. Matt. records curse and swear and to deny Jesus, sounding much like the old Simon,

c) **v. 60b-62 Despair**

- i) Looked at Peter. Has Jesus ever looked at you? Holy Spirit who convicts of sin.
- ii) Remembered the Word of the Lord
- iii) Wept Bitterly Godly sorrow is necessary for true repentance
- iv) No blaming of others. It's me O Lord, standing in the need of prayer
- v) Thomas Watson, great Puritan writer of yesteryear, wrote that "Repentance is the vomiting of the soul."

III) PETER'S DELIVERANCE

- a) Forgiveness
 - i) Mark 16:7 (NKJV) "But go, tell His disciples--and Peter--that He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him, as He said to you."

Mercy there was great and grace was free, Pardon there was multiplied to me, There my burdened soul found liberty, At Calvary!!

- b) Though Peter forsook Jesus, Jesus did not forsake Peter.
- c) Though Peter denied Jesus, Jesus did not deny him.
- d) Though Peter gave up on himself, Jesus did not give up on him.
- e) Jesus would tell Peter to "Feed my sheep" and feed them he would. On the Day of Pentecost he would preach and 3000 would be saved,
 - i) Acts 4:13 (NKJV) Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they marveled. And they realized that they had been with Jesus.
 - ii) Acts 5:29 (NKJV) But Peter and the [other] apostles answered and said: "We ought to obey God rather than men.
 - iii) Acts 5:41 (NKJV) So they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name. 42 And daily in the temple, and in every house, they

did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus [as] the Christ.

- f) Peter would be crucified upside down under the reign of Nero.
- g) Have you forsaken the Lord, He has not forsaken you