

**FAILURE ISN'T FINAL**  
**JOHN 18:15-27 / APRIL 2, 2017 / AM**

**I. FIRST, THE REASONS FOR PETER'S FAILURE CAME IN THREES.**

- A. Peter didn't understand the necessity for the cross--Matt. 16:21-23.
- B. Peter didn't realize how serious spiritual complacency can be--Matt. 26:40-41.
- C. Peter's self-assurance may be the biggest reason he failed.
  - 1. Peter was sure of himself from the very beginning--John 6:66-68.
  - 2. Peter was even sure he would die for Jesus--John 13:36-37.
  - 3. Peter, at first, did demonstrate his willingness to die for Jesus--John 18:10-11.
  - 4. Peter even followed Jesus when he was first arrested--John 18:15.

**II. SECOND, PETER'S FAILURE CAME IN THREES.**

- A. Three times he denied even knowing who Jesus was--John 18:15-17, 25-27.
- B. After Peter's third denial he came face to face with Jesus--Luke 22:60-62.

**III. THIRD, PETER'S RESTORATION CAME IN THREES.**

- A. Corresponding to Peter's three denials are Jesus' three questions--John 21:15-17.
- B. Much has been made of the different Greek words for "love" used here.
- C. What did Jesus mean by "**more than these**" in the first question?
- D. The purpose of Jesus' questions to Peter was to cause him to examine himself and to reinstate him.