

PETER'S COLLAPSE
(Matthew 26:69-75)

- I. Peter's PROGRESSION to His Collapse
 - A. Boastful CONFIDENCE in HIMSELF (26:33)
 - B. Insubordinate REJECTION of Jesus' EVALUATION (26:35)
 - C. Disobedient PRAYERLESSNESS (26:40-41, 43, 45)
 - D. Presumptive INDEPENDENCE (26:51)
 - E. Careless RECKLESSNESS (26:69)
- II. Peter's PERFORMANCE of His Collapse (Matt. 26:69-75a)
 - A. First Denial (26:69-70)
 - 1. Sitting in the COURTYARD of the High Priest's PALACE
 - 2. Confronted by a "SERVANT-GIRL"
 - a. She had LET him through the GATE
 - b. She declared "You too were WITH JESUS"
 - 3. Denied the LORD
 - a. He said, "I neither KNOW nor UNDERSTAND what you are TALKING ABOUT"
 - b. He WITHDREW to the GATEWAY/PORTICO
 - B. Second Denial (26:70-72)

1. Identified AGAIN by the SERVANT-GIRL
2. Confronted by OTHERS
3. Continued to DENY the Lord, this time with an OATH

C. Third Denial (26:73-74a)

1. Confronted AGAIN by those standing in the COURTYARD
2. Identified as a native of GALILEE
4. Denied Christ FORCEFULLY
 - a. Called down CURSES upon himself if he were LYING
 - b. Took a solemn OATH that he spoke the TRUTH
 - c. Declared, "I DO NOT KNOW the man!"

III. Peter's PENITANCE for His Collapse (Matt. 26:75b)

- A. HEARD the rooster CROW
- B. REMEMBERED the WORDS of Jesus
- C. WEPT in broken-hearted REPENTANCE
 1. A word of CAUTION: If an APOSTLE could deny Christ, ANYONE could
 2. A word of COMFORT: When we fail, the way is open for REPENTANCE, FORGIVENESS, and RESTORATION