

## How Should We Then Live? IV

### By Greg Rangel

When we study the life of Peter throughout the Scriptures, we see that Peter was the one that would always get in trouble. You can say that Peter was led by emotion most of the time prior to the death of Jesus, and some of the time after the death of Jesus.

Remember the time in which Jesus spoke the disciples about how he was going to suffer in Jerusalem? According to the Scriptures, Peter “...*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 offense unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men*” (Matt. 16:22-23). No doubt Peter thought that Jesus was totally mistaken in what He had said. And so therefore Peter needed to try to be the superhero, which caused him to get into trouble.

Another instance was when Jesus was telling His disciples that “...*all ye shall be offended because of me this night: for it is written, I will smite the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock shall be scattered abroad*” (Matt. 26:31). What was Peter’s response to that? “*Peter answered and said unto him, though all men shall be offended because of thee, yet will I never be offended. Jesus said unto him, verily I say unto thee, that this night, before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice. Peter said unto him, though I should die with thee, yet will I not deny thee. Likewise also said all the disciples*” (Matt. 26:33-35). So Peter’s mouth got him in trouble once again because he thought that Jesus was wrong with what He was saying.

Another prime example of Peter getting in trouble is found in the book of Acts, many years after the resurrection of Jesus Christ. In Acts 10 the Lord had commanded Cornelius to send men to Joppa and get Peter so that Peter might tell him what he needs to do. And so Cornelius obeyed. The following day in Joppa Peter was on the rooftop praying and waiting for his food when he fell into a trance. In a vision he saw many unclean animals, to which the Lord told him, “...*rise, Peter; kill, and eat. But Peter said, not so, Lord; for I have never eaten anything that is common or unclean And the voice spake unto him again the second time, what God hath cleansed, that call not thou common*” (Acts 10:13-15).

The words of Peter are called an oxymoron. They are contradiction in terms because by calling Jesus Lord, that means that you are under His will and you will do everything He says. When you say “no Lord,” then He no longer is your Lord.

How often do people today say the same thing that Peter said? We live in a society in which people have gotten so used to call Jesus “Lord” when in reality they don’t want to obey Him and His Word at all! It is a contradiction in terms when you call Jesus your Lord and yet you choose to disobey Him. Jesus said in Luke 6:46, “*Why do you call me Lord, Lord, and do not the things that I say?*” The Apostle Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 10:21 “*Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table, and of the table of devils.*”

I believe that there are many “Christians” who have a big misunderstanding of what true Christianity is. There are many that believe that they can live a life of disobedience because after all, “they are already saved, and therefore cannot lose their salvation,” or simply because they go to church and pay their tithes, or are even involved in ministry in one way or another.

No doubt these type of “Christians” are the ones that will argue against you when it comes to the topic on obedience and disobedience. But they can argue as much as they want, but that will not change the truth that is written in the Word of God.

Jesus said in John 14:15, 21, 23-24, *“If ye love me, keep my commandments...He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me:...If a man love me, he will keep my words:...He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings:...”*

**Pastor Greg Rangel is the Pastor of Edification Calvary Chapel in Harlingen TX. You may reach him via email at [gregrangel@msn.com](mailto:gregrangel@msn.com). You can also get more information of his studies at [edificationcalvarychapel.org](http://edificationcalvarychapel.org).**