

LESSONS FROM A BACKSLIDER

Text: 2 Peter 2:20-22

INTRO: In our text, Simon Peter writes about something he knew by personal experience. As he discovered the night he denied Jesus, the process of backsliding is a gradual one, often overtaking a person by surprise.

In this lesson we will examine the process that led to Peter's denial of Jesus as recorded in Mark 14.

I. THE ANALYSIS OF A BACKSLIDER

- A. Pride or arrogance. READ MARK 14:27-31.
- B. Unconcern, READ MARK 14:32-42
- c. Reluctance, Fear, READ MARK 14:53-54a
- D. Worldliness, READ MARK 14:54b
- E. Denial, READ MARK 14:66-71.

II. ADVICE FROM ONE WHO LEARNED THE HARD WAY

- A. To Guard Against Pride, Peter enjoins humility, READ I PETER 5:5-6
- B. To Ward Against unconcern, Peter commands diligence. READ 2 PETER 1:5-10.
- C. Instead of Reluctance, or Fear, Peter charges us to not be ashamed but to glorify God in Christ's name, 1 Pet. 4:16.
- D. Instead of worldliness, Peter admonishes us to turn away from evil & evil influences & trust God to see us through. READ 1 PETER 3:10-14.
- E. Instead of denial, Peter exhorts us to always be ready to give a defense for our hope in Christ, 1 Pet. 3:15.

CONCLUSION: What Peter learned the hard way, we may learn from his mistakes. As he closes his 2nd letter, he writes: READ 2 PETER 3:17-18.

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