

“Living in Denial” **Matthew 26:69-75**

Introduction: Peter, living in denial, did not change the reality.

1. The Rejection of Peter

- a. Concerning His Loyalty Matthew 26:69-70- *“Now Peter sat without in the palace: and a damsel came unto him, saying, Thou also wast with Jesus of Galilee. But he denied before them all, saying, I know not what thou sayest.”*
 - b. Concerning His Language Matthew 26:73- *“And after a while came unto him they that stood by, and said to Peter, Surely thou also art one of them; for thy speech bewrayeth thee.”*
 - c. Concerning His Learning Mark 14:68- *“But he denied, saying, I know not, neither understand I what thou sayest. And he went out into the porch; and the cock crew.”*
Luke 22:57- *“And he denied him, saying, Woman, I know him not.”*
 - d. Concerning His Location
 - (1) In Galilee Luke 22:59- *“And about the space of one hour after another confidently affirmed, saying, Of a truth this fellow also was with him: for he is a Galilaean.”*
 - (2) In the Garden John 18:26- *“One of the servants of the high priest, being his kinsman whose ear Peter cut off, saith, Did not I see thee in the garden with him?”*
2. The Reality of Peter Luke 22:61-62- *“And the Lord turned, and looked upon Peter. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said unto him, Before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice. And Peter went out, and wept bitterly.”*

1. The Meaning of Denial

- a. “deny” (Strong’s)- “not to accept, to reject, to refuse something offered”
 - b. “deny” (Webster’s)- “To contradict; to gainsay; to declare a statement or position not to be true. To refuse or neglect to acknowledge; not to confess. To reject; to disown; not to receive or embrace.”
2. The Manifestations of Denial
- a. Denied—19 times in the KJV
 - b. Denieth—3 times in the KJV
 - c. Deny—22 times in the KJV
 - d. Denying—4 times in the KJV

Body: There is several people living in rejection of certain truths, but there is a reality that they must learn to deal with and accept.

- I. The Denial of the Saviour Matthew 10:33- *“But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven.”*
(What does it mean to deny Jesus?)
 - A. The Denial of His Relationship

1. Luke 12:9- *“But he that denieth me before men shall be denied before the angels of God.”*
 2. II Timothy 2:12- *“If we suffer, we shall also reign with him: if we deny him, he also will deny us”*
- B. The Denial of His Rulership
1. I John 2:22- *“Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son.”*
 2. I John 2:23- *“Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father: (but) he that acknowledgeth the Son hath the Father also.”*
- C. The Denial of His Resolutions II Peter 2:1- *“But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.”*
- II. The Denial of the Servant Matthew 16:24- *“Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.”*
- A. In His Sacrifice
1. Mark 8:34- *“And when he had called the people unto him with his disciples also, he said unto them, Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.”*
 2. Luke 9:23- *“And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.”*
- B. In His Separation Titus 2:12- *“Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world”*
- C. In His Stand
1. Revelation 2:13- *“I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, even where Satan's seat is: and thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith, even in those days wherein Antipas was my faithful martyr, who was slain among you, where Satan dwelleth.”*
 2. Revelation 3:8- *“I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name.”*
- III. The Denial of the Slothful I Timothy 5:8- *“But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.”*
II Thessalonians 3:10- *“For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat.” (3:6-12)*
- IV. The Denial of the Sinner II Timothy 3:5- *“Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.”*
- A. Titus 1:16- *“They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.”*

- B. Jude 1:4- *“For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.”*

Conclusion: What will be the end of living a life of denial? Matthew 7:21

1. They Professed Him in Words Matthew 7:22- *“Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name?”*
2. They Professed Him in Wonders Matthew 7:22- *“...and in thy name have cast out devils?”*
3. They Professed Him in Works Matthew 7:22- *“...and in thy name done many wonderful works?”*
4. They Professed Him in Wickedness Matthew 7:23- *“And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.”*