

## **"When a Believer Falls"** Matthew 26:30-35

We should be glad that the Bible gives true accounts of faith and victories. But we should also be grateful that the Scriptures tell the stories of struggle and even failure.

1. On the way to the Mount of Olives, JESUS announced that all of the 12 Disciples \_\_\_\_\_. The pressure in following HIM, would be overwhelming, on this, the \_\_\_\_\_ in Earth's History. **V.30**
2. Satan, our Enemy, is \_\_\_\_\_ in his onslaught against us. He attacks the \_\_\_\_\_ first, because he knows that when the Leaders stumble and fall, those under him or her, will usually \_\_\_\_\_ in their confusion. **V.31, Zech. 13:7** - With one hit, multitudes can be \_\_\_\_\_.
3. JESUS then said something reassuring; that after the Resurrection, HE would \_\_\_\_\_ of them, and be waiting for them in the Galilee region. **V.32** That is where most of them \_\_\_\_\_, and is where HE first met them. They would return to what they knew; a \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Peter then brazenly declared that he certainly would \_\_\_\_\_ from following CHRIST, even though all the others might. **V.33** CHRIST replied that before sunup, Peter would deny HIS Master \_\_\_\_\_ **V.34** \_\_\_\_\_ and anxious, Peter asserted (with the rest) that cowardice in the face of danger and pressure, was not a \_\_\_\_\_. He stated that he would choose to \_\_\_\_\_, rather than deny JESUS. **V.35**
5. But only about 4 hours later, Peter's \_\_\_\_\_ came true.  
**Mt. 26:68-72** - After JESUS' arrest in the Garden of Gethsemane:
  - A. Peter was warming himself by a fire, outside of the house of the High Priest, \_\_\_\_\_, where JESUS was being held for interrogation.
  - B. A servant girl, recognized Peter, and said, "You were \_\_\_\_\_, the Galilean." Peter quickly \_\_\_\_\_ and denied it. **V.70**
  - C. He left that area and went outside of the courtyard, where another servant girl spotted Peter and said to \_\_\_\_\_, "This man was with JESUS, the Nazarene." **V.71**

Peter swore with an \_\_\_\_\_, stating again, that he did not even \_\_\_\_\_ who JESUS was. **V.72**

D. Later on, during the cold of that horrible night, a group of on-lookers, came up to Peter. They stated that Peter's Galilean \_\_\_\_\_ gave him away as being a follower of CHRIST. **V.73**

With profane cursing and blasphemy, Peter vehemently declared, "I \_\_\_\_\_!" **V.74**

6. Peter's fall happened all too quickly:

A. The words of denial, had no sooner left Peter's lips, when the sound of a \_\_\_\_\_ rang out across the hills of Jerusalem. It signaled not the \_\_\_\_\_ of a new day, but Peter's devastating defeat by darkness, and the \_\_\_\_\_ of his very life.

B. The rooster's unnerving cry, startled Peter into remembering the \_\_\_\_\_ words of CHRIST's warning, given specifically to him, as the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Disciples. **V.75**

C. Peter may have remembered CHRIST's stern earlier warning, "If you deny ME before men, I will \_\_\_\_\_ before MY Father in Heaven." Mt. 10:33, 16:18

D. As soldiers led JESUS out of Caiaphas's house for judgement, Peter's \_\_\_\_\_ saw the last thing he wanted to see: the \_\_\_\_\_ and bloodied gaze of his Beloved Savior. Luke 22:61

E. Peter could take no more. He fled into the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Night, a weeping, \_\_\_\_\_, and devastated man.

Next Week's study: **"What to Remember When You Have Fallen"**