

## The Words Of Peter

Matthew 12:33-37

### *"For by your words ..."*

- › Our words reflect our heart. Matthew 15:18; Proverbs 4:23
- › Think before speaking. James 1:19 (Philippians 4:8)
- › Watch out for *"careless words."* Matthew 12:36-37
- › Peter's heart and words reflect many of us, both appropriate and inappropriate.

### *"I will never ..."* – Matthew 26:33

*"Even though all may fall away because of You, I will never fall away."*

- Spoken in response to Jesus declaration that *"you will all fall away because of Me this very night."* (verse 31)
- We admire the words of loyalty. What hope do we have if we don't think such thoughts?
- 3 points ...

### *"I will never ..."* – Matthew 26:33

1. We don't know the future. We are warned about being presumptuous. James 4:13-17.
2. We ought not to be arrogant about our own faith. 1 Corinthians 10:12
3. We need to think about what we need to do to ensure our continued faithfulness and act.
  - Be able to call scripture to mind. 2 Peter 1:12-15
  - Continue growth and progress. 2 Peter 1:5-8
  - Rely on God. 1 Peter 4:11
  - Be prepared. 1 Peter 4:12
  - Be humble. 1 Peter 5:6-7
  - Be sober. 1 Peter 5:8
  - Focus on the outcome. 1 Peter 1:6-9

### *"This will never happen ..."* – Matthew 16:22

Matthew 16:22, *"God forbid it, Lord! This shall never happen to You."*

- › Jesus just told His disciples He would suffer, be killed and be raised the 3<sup>rd</sup> day.
- › Peter's response was said from a temporal/physical perspective and not an eternal/spiritual one.
- › Peter was focused on this life and had his plans on how life would go – with Jesus as the King.

### *"This will never happen ..."* – Matthew 16:22

Matthew 16:22, *"God forbid it, Lord! This shall never happen to You."*

- › Jesus responded to Peter by declaring, *"Get behind Me Satan! You are a stumbling block to Me; for you are not setting your mind on God's interests but man's."*
- › Where is our focus? Romans 8:5-8; Philippians 3:18-19; Philippians 2:3-7.
- › Do we commit our plans to the Lord? Job 17:11; Proverbs 16:1-9; 19:21
- › Are we willing to allow the Lord to change our plans? Philippians 3:4-11

***"I am ready ..."*** – Luke 22:33

*"Lord, with You I am ready to go both to prison and to death!"*

- We are called upon to be ready. 1 Peter 3:15; 2 Timothy 4:2; Proverbs 22:17-18
- Ready to share and for every good deed. 1 Timothy 6:18; Titus 3:1
- Are we ready for Jesus to come again? Matthew 24:42-44; 25:10

***"I am ready ..."*** – Luke 22:33

*"Lord, with You I am ready to go both to prison and to death!"*

- If called upon to make some withdrawals, have we made enough deposits? Matthew 6:19-21.
- *"The good man out of his good treasure brings forth what is good ..."* (Matthew 12:35)
- We make the tree good through our deposits. We reap what we sow. Galatians 6:7-8

***"What about this man?"*** – John 21:21

*"Peter therefore seeing him said to Jesus, 'Lord, and what about this man?'"*

- The command to Peter** – and to each one of us: *"You follow Me!"* – Luke 9:23, 59-62
- Making application to self before others.** Matthew 7:1-5; **Acts 20:28**; Galatians 6:1
- Our duty to run no matter how others may run.** 1 Corinthians 9:24-27
- Our duty to keep morally and doctrinally pure even if others don't.** Revelation 2:24; 3:4
- Our duty to sacrifice even if others don't.** Romans 12:1-2
- Worrying about the prosperity of the wicked.** Psalms 73:12-17

***"To whom shall we go?"*** – John 6:68

*"Lord, to whom shall we go? You have words of eternal life."*

- Peter believed what Jesus said in verses 63-64, *"It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing; the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and are life. But there are some of you who do not believe."*
- Are we convinced that Jesus is *"the Lamb of God"*? The Messiah? John 1:29; 36-42
- Are we desperate for what only Jesus can provide? 1 Peter 2:1-2
- Will we be distracted? Luke 10:38-42
- Will we focus on eternal or temporal life? Acts 5:20; Philippians 2:16; 2 Timothy 1:10

The key points:

1. ***"I will never"*** – Focus on what we need to do today to prepare for the trials to come.
2. ***"This shall never happen"*** – is our focus on the temporal or eternal?
3. ***"I am ready"*** – have we made the deposits to draw from when needed?
4. ***"What about this man?"*** – am I focused on my personal duty to follow Jesus?
5. ***"To whom shall we go?"*** – will I continually crave the words that lead to eternal life?

Will you respond to the Lord's invitation?  
Matthew 11:28-30