

## Peter's Beatitude

### I. Slide1 Announce:

- A. Slide2 Harvest Festival - 125 volunteers.
- B. Slide3 Stuff the Bus - Pick up list...drop off items.
- C. Slide4 V.M. @ Mens Breakfast next Sat/gym/7:30am/\$5. Then Sunday Morning sharing for a few minutes on new direction for his family. Slide5 Then Children at Risk 3pm Sun.
- D. Slide6 Dream Center - Nov.5th help w/projects in L.E. Also, If you have ideas of places to volunteer in L.E. you can contact Kelly. Flier in the info booth.
- E. Slide7,8 Sahar - 3 min video of Sahar's testimony. Then I've asked her to come up & share about 2 new ministry's she's doing. Bible Translating & Unveiling Beauty.

### II. Slide9 Intro: Voting

- A. I like what *Mike Rowe* (dirty Jobs) said, Look at our current candidates. No one appears to like either one of them. Their approval ratings are at record lows. It's not about who you like more, it's about who you hate less. Sure, we can blame the media, the system, and the candidates themselves, but let's be honest – Donald and Hillary are there because we put them there. The electorate has tolerated the intolerable. We've treated this entire process like the final episode of American Idol. What did we expect?
- B. What should your pastor say about politics/elections? Some want me to say something, give my opinion. Others might think even addressing it this morning is too much.
  - 1. It's not what does Brian say, but what does God say. [not my area of study, nor expertise]
- C. We are the church...but this space that we meet in is also called a church. It's a building, a place, a gathering, a community. It's where Jesus followers get together to fix our eyes on Him.
  - 1. Other spaces are dedicated to policies or to politics in our country. And those are respected spaces. We honor those spaces and we honor those leaders that lead there. (adapted from pastor Judah Smith)
  - 2. This is not a political space. It is not a legislation space. I believe this space is far more important than those. I do not believe my position is to share my political persuasion. I think it's unimportant whom I will vote for.

3. I'm here to point you to the **only answer** that we've had throughout all human history. **The answer is Jesus**. That is actually my mandate **and** it is my goal.
  4. I am *pro-God, pro-people, pro-humanity, pro-human life, pro good news, and pro-love*.
  5. As you know we have big problems in our country, *hatred, murder, bigotry, prejudice, racism*. This problem is not just an *American* problem, it is actually *global*. *Hatred?* yes just look at the **meanness** of Christians on social media regarding this election...it **makes demons blush**.
- D. I look throughout the whole NT, even w/**Jesus** and **Paul's** writings, **and** not much is given to the changing of Rome, their gov in their day, even despite their perverted rulers.
1. No boycotts, no coup's, no revolts or uprising against their gov, **even despite the attacks on Christianity**. I hear, "pay your taxes". "Give to Caesar what is his & to God what's His". And that we are all to be **subject to our governing authorities, for there's no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist for appointed by God**. Rom.13:1.
- E. Folks, God's not worried or fearful...especially in regards to our elections.
- F. What a reminder we have in **Psalm 146** [Ps.146-150 *Final Hallel*. Begins/ends with *Hallelujah*]
1. **Slide10** 1 Praise the Lord! Let all that I am praise the Lord. 2 I will praise the Lord as long as I live. I will sing praises to my God with my dying breath. 3 Don't put your confidence in powerful people (msg/experts); there is no help for you there. 4 When they breathe their last, they return to the earth, and all their plans die with them. 5 But joyful are those who have the God of Israel/ Jacob as their helper, whose hope is in the Lord their God. 6 He made heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them. He keeps every promise forever. 7 He gives justice to the oppressed and food to the hungry. The Lord frees the prisoners. 8 The Lord opens the eyes of the blind. The Lord lifts up those who are weighed down. The Lord loves the godly. 9 The Lord protects the foreigners among us. He cares for the orphans and widows, but he frustrates the plans of the wicked. 10 The Lord will reign forever. He will be your God, O Jerusalem(Murr, USA), throughout the generations. Praise the Lord! *nlt*
  - a) **God of Jacob**. Not the God of the put together, educated, brilliant, or experts. The God of *Jacob*/liars. Adulterers, broken, helpless, hopeless. **This is our God**. In

Him do we put our **trust**. In Him is what we place our **hope**. **Put your hope in God**. Not in experts, not talking heads, not your favorite News commentators aka *opinion-ators*.

G. I appreciate, those like **Bob Tyler** from our fellowship, who is taking his talents to run for **City Council in Murrieta**, to do something about helping our city. **Instead of** complaining about it, **or** running from it, Bob had the courage to **run towards it**.

1. **Christians** should not relegate *the fine arts, music, nor politics* to unbelievers. When God saved us He saved **the whole person**, not just our souls.
2. **Brian are you saying 2 different things here? No.**
  - a) **As a Church**, we come together for the *apostles' doctrine, fellowship, breaking of bread, and prayers*. **Then...As Christians** we *go out* doing all we can to be salt/light/*influencers* in our world.

H. **Slide11 Title: Peter's Beatitude**. Here we have Peter's Beatitude...*blessed are you...*

1. **Outline: Peter's Right Answer. Peter's Wrong Answer. Jesus' Final Answer.**

### III. **Slide12 PETER'S RIGHT ANSWER (17-20)**

A. **Simon Bar-Jonah** - His old name was mentioned to bring out a *distinction* between what he was **by nature**, & what **grace** had made him.

1. Peter's response was from the Father.

B. **Slide13a (18) Peter** - *Petros*(a little stone) a piece of a rock from a big rock [explain **Caesarea Philippi**]

1. The fluttering **Son of Dove**/Jonah, becomes **Rock Man**.

C. **Slide13b Church** - (*Ekklesia*) To call out (a gathering of people who have been called forth).

1. This is the 1st occurrence in the N.T.
2. **Used 114x's in NT**. In **90** of these references, refers to a local church (assembly).
  - a) **However**, here, He is speaking of *the Whole Church*.
  - b) *God is the builder. Peter and the apostles make up the 1st course of stone in the great temple of the church. And this coarse rests on the Eternal Rock, Jesus Christ.*

(1) Heb.11:10 *for he/Ab. waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God.*

(2) 1Co 3:11 *For no other **foundation** can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.*

D. Did Peter see himself as head rock? **No**. See 1 Pet.2:1-8.

1. Being one of the cinder blocks towards the top of the great Church wall, aren't **you** thankful that you have a firm foundation in Jesus *rather* than a mere man?

E. Who is the head of the Church?

1. Eph.1:22 *And He put all things under His feet(Jesus), and gave Him to be head over all things to the church.*

F. Gates of Hell/hades shall not prevail...against *His church, His bride, New Jerusalem*.

1. This was no house made of **straw**, nor **wood**, **but** of **stone**.

2. The Wolf Satan can huff & puff **but** will never blow His house down.

G. Slide14a (19) **Keys of the Kingdom** - **Key**, or a badge of **authority**. [he who has the key has the authority. *i.e.* *my church keys, your house keys*]

1. Slide14b **Keys** are not mentioned in the everyday sense in the NT. **The term is always used in the figurative sense.**

a) A common view in the ancient world was that heaven is closed off by doors

b) On the common ancient view the underworld, too, is thought to be barred by gates

2. **Peter doesn't own the keys to heavens gate.**

a) *As we use keys to open doors...* Peter had the privilege to **open** the **1st door** of faith to The Jews at Pent (Acts 2). **In** (Acts 5) **he shut out Ananias & Sapphira**. He **opened** the 1st door to the Samaritans (Acts 8:14). **And** the **1st door** to the Gentiles in (Acts 10).

b) Remember we aren't to **set up doors** **but** to *open & shut* them.

c) And this *wasn't* limited to Peter. **See** 18:18.

3. Peter neither in the Gospels, **nor** in the 1st 1/2 of Acts (1-12), **nor** in his 2 epistles, ever claimed to be anymore than:

a) Slide14c **An Apostle** (1Pet.1:1) *Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ.*

b) **An Elder** (1Pet.5:1) *The elders who are among you I exhort, I who am a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ.*

c) **A Bond Servant** (2Pet.1:1) *Simon Peter, a bondservant and apostle of Jesus Christ.*  
[*Note* the *digression*]

4. Note the authority in the early church was **James** in Jerusalem, **Acts 15**.
- H. **Binding & Loosing** - A familiar phrase to the Jews, it meant *forbidding or Permitting*.
1. **Syntax is important here**. [LKGNT, pg.49] This construction is the *future perfect passive periphrastic transitive*. **Will have been bound...will have been loosed**. **It is the church on earth caring out heaven's decisions, not heaven ratifying the church's decision**.
- I. Have you given anyone God's *Pin number* into Heaven Gates lately?
- J. (20) **We are under no such embargo** (*tell no one*). **Tell all** that *Jesus is the Anointed of God, The Christ, The Messiah, The Son of the Living God, He is God*.

#### IV. Slide15 **PETER'S WRONG ANSWER (21-23)**

- A. (21) **From that time** - indicates a new stage. **Jesus looked at His iPhone watch that just vibrated, it's time!**
1. **This was His 1st Clear statement of His death**.
  2. **Slide16** The Cross had always cast its shadow over our Lord's path. *Notice the must*
- B. (22) **This shall not happen to You!** - Would are heart plead as earnest upon hearing such a horror-stricken idea?
1. Lit. *May God be gracious unto you or, may God spare you this*.
  2. **Think about it**, what would your 1st response be to your spouse or best friend telling you that they're terminal & will be dying in a month. *No Way! This can't be!*
    - a) Haven't you ever questioned the Lord on what he was doing?
  3. **Slide17** Peter **heard & spoke** from **God/Father** (17) & then only **5 vss later** he **heard & spoke** from **Satan**. [**can we admit we can do the same today?**]
- C. Note the voice that says, *spare yourself/ourselves* is often **Satan's**.
1. **Self-Pleasing ends in destruction**. Whereas self-denial & self-sacrifice are the divine path to **Life**.
  2. Be cautious of the voice from *a friend, or family, or from the enemy*, that says, *Surely God doesn't want you to face this!*

- a) **Slide18** Maybe persecution was to be the norm? **Quote story**, *The Insanity of God*, by Nik Ripken. An **ordinary couple** from Kentucky who went on an **ordinary missionary pilgrimage**, relief work in **Somalia**. Then ends up interviewing pers believers.

D. **Slide19** (23) **Why did Jesus call Peter Satan?**

1. **Satan**/adversary. In Heb meant to **oppose, obstruct, or accuse** [NT became a title]
2. Satan in the wilderness used this same approach to tempt Jesus to **not go to the cross**.
3. (Lit.) *Get behind me adversary. You are a stumbling block to me.*
  - a) Peter the **rock** just became, Peter the **stumbling block**.
  - b) **Have you listened to any bad advice from the enemy lately?**

E. **What was Peter's mistake?** He was thinking like a man (we want to escape any suffering & death). **i.e. self preservation**.

1. He didn't have God's mind in this matter.
2. **Have you been mindful of the things of God lately or only your things?**

F. Peter had enough **faith** to Confess that *Jesus is the Son of God*, **but** he did not have the **faith** to believe that it was right for Jesus to *suffer & die*.

V. **Slide20 JESUS' FINAL ANSWER...DENY SELF (24-28)**

A. **Slide21a** Jesus told them of **His** cross, **now** He will tell them of **theirs**.

B. **Deny himself** - or denies the self. **Is your self at the center? or your Jesus the Center of your life?** **See**, it's not about you denying **stuff/ things** it's about **you** denying **you**.

1. **Slide21b,c** It's to **dethrone** self & to **enthroned** God.
2. It's living a life where Jesus is **the heart, the core, the center** of your thinking and actions.
3. **By far** this aspect of the Christian walk is the **hardest** for all believers.
  - a) **Slide21d** Every thought/decision we make naturally gets sifted through our **self-filter**. We are constantly asking ourselves, *How will I benefit from this? What's in it for me? How will it effect me?*
  - b) **We need to crucify** are **self**, our **flesh** to the cross. **So that**, though it be **alive**, it **cannot perform** that which it would love to do.

- C. **Slide21e** And it's about doing it **daily**. Being deliberate, willful, & intentional. It's the surrender of one's life every day.
1. Great you surrendered on the day of your salvation, **but how about daily?**
- D. **Slide22** **Take up his cross** - in this sense your cross and my cross is the same. That is, we choose daily to surrender our *wills, ways, emotions* and *all that we are* to the **Lord Jesus**.
1. It's us choosing today (and tomorrow) to follow Him whatever that requires of us.
    - a) That's not always *painful*. That's not always *the worst thing* that can happen.
    - b) **That becomes a way of life**. Again, not denying the self of *things*, **but** putting Jesus at the *heart, core, center*, of all your decisions, and walking in that every single day. **That's what it is to take at the cross.**
- E. **Slide23** **Follow Me** - (RWP) present tense *Keep following me*.
1. See, after you **confess** Him properly<sup>(16:16)</sup> **U must come after Him intentionally**.
    - a) **So, denying the old self, choosing daily the Father's will** (taking up your *cross* doesn't only speak to the *suffering* on it, **but doing the Fathers will**), and **keeping close to Jesus** (follow Me), **we will find our true selves**.
- F. (25) **Finding it/life** - There is a major difference between **existing & living**.
1. **To exist is...**simply to have the **lungs** breathing & the **heart** beating.
  2. **To live is...**to live in a world where everything is worthwhile, where there is **peace** in the soul, **joy** in the heart, & a **thrill** in every moment.
    - a) If we meet life w/the constant search for *safety, security, ease & comfort*, if every decision is taken from worldly wise & prudential motives, **we are loosing all that makes life worth while**.
- G. **Who** are you? **Why** in the world are you here? **Where** are you going?
1. **Life IS going somewhere...do you know where?** You are either **denying** yourself **or living** for self.