

Who Needs To Know?

*"...he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,
and...he appeared to Cephas.[Peter]..."*

1 Corinthians 15:4-5 (NIV)

*"Besides, they get into the habit of being idle
and going about from house to house.*

*And not only do they become idlers,
but also busybodies who talk nonsense,
saying things they ought not to."*

1 Timothy 5:13

The night of the betrayal our Lord told the apostles He was departing from them. Peter asked where He was going. Jesus responded that Peter could not go with Him now but would come later. That was when Peter pledged he would follow Jesus to the death if needed. Immediately Jesus told Peter that he would deny his Master three times before dawn. (John 13:37-38)

It was true that Peter would die for his beloved Master, but he would have to grow in grace over many years before he would be ready to die a martyr's death (John 21:18-19). As far as we know not one of the disciples witnessed Peter's denials nor were any of them present when Peter met with Jesus after the resurrection. Paul just states that Jesus appeared to Peter.

We see how gracious Jesus was with Peter to keep the matter private. Such is the gentle Jesus with a beloved follower who has stumbled. Is

this not a wonderfully encouraging portrait of our Lord? If you have fallen somehow and need to have the Lord visit you privately you may rest assured, He will treat you with the love and compassion you need. His love for you will keep your visit private and the matter will be settled never to be raised by Him again.

It does not matter how sinful you have been, the Lord came to call sinners to repentance. On the cross Jesus took a criminal into His kingdom even though the man had confessed he had done crimes worthy of death. Who except you and Jesus needs to know the extent of your sins? Come to Him and come now.

*"Though your sins
be as scarlet,
They shall be
as white as snow;
Though they be red
like crimson,
They shall be as wool!"*

*"Though your sins
be as scarlet,*

*They shall be
as white as snow."
Hear the voice
that entreats you,
Oh, return you unto God!*

*He is of great compassion,
And of wondrous love;
Hear the voice
that entreats you,
Oh, return you unto God!*

*He'll forgive
your transgressions,
And remember them no more;
"Look unto Me, you people,"
Says the Lord your God!
He'll forgive
your transgressions,
And remember them no more.*

Isaiah 1:18 (NIV)

*"Come now, let us settle the
matter," says the Lord.
"Though your sins are like
scarlet, they shall be as white
as snow; though they are red
as crimson, they shall be like
wool."*

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