

THE MINISTRY OF MINDING YOUR OWN BUSINESS

John 21:15-22

INTRODUCTION: God has a plan for each of our lives. As a Christian, the Lord has given us a ministry. We shall all give account to the Lord regarding our ministry. Our focus must be on the Lord as we follow Him and not on those around us.

I. REVELATION TO PETER (Peter's future)

A. PETER'S MINISTRY. (vv. 15-17)

B. PETER'S MARTYDOM. (vv. 18-19)

II. RELAPSE OF PETER (Peter's failure)

A. MASTER'S COMMAND. "Follow Me" v. 19

B. MISTAKE OF PETER. "Turning about" v. 20

C. MEDDLING OF PETER. v. 21 "what shall this man do?"

1. Peter's concern for John.

2. Peter's curiosity about John's future.

3. Peter's complaint toward John.

4. Peter's conceit.

"But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or as a thief, or as an evildoer, or as a busybody in other men's matters." (1Pet. 4:15)

Who art thou that judgest another man's servant? to his own master he standeth or falleth. Yea, he shall be holden up: for God is able to make him stand. Rom. 14:4

III. REBUKE OF PETER (Peter following)

A. REGARDING LORDSHIP. v. 22 "I will"

B. REGARDING DISCIPLESHIP. v. 22 "follow thou me"

1. Surrender to the Lord. "can not serve two masters" (Matt. 6:24)

2. Servant of the Lord. "servant is not above his master" (Matt. 10:24)

3. Steward of the Lord. "steward must give account" (Rom. 14:12)

LESSONS FOR LIFE:

1. The believer is called to follow Jesus. Peter stopped following Christ and started looking. John was answerable to Jesus just like Peter.

2. Each believer needs be concern about their own relationship with Christ first.