

# “A CRACK IN THE ROCK”

*(John 1:42, 6:66-69, 13:36-38, 18:10-18, 25-27,  
Matt. 26:73-74, Mark 16:6-7, 1 Cor. 19:12)*

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*Gospel of John - Sermon 36*

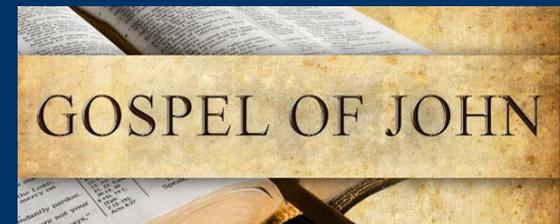
*Speaker: Rev. Bobby Lam*

*Date: August 7, 2016*

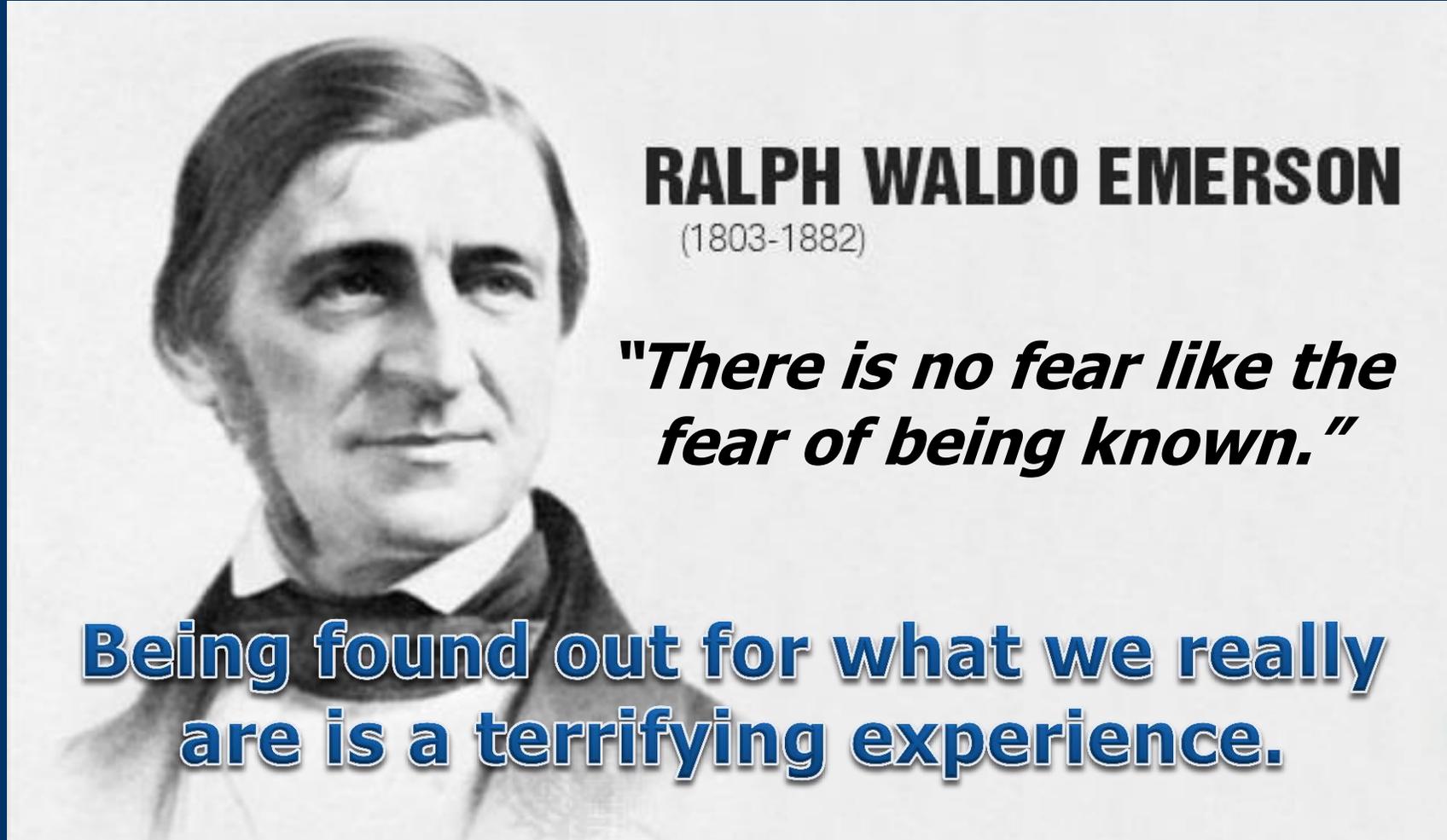
*Place: Hope Community Baptist Church*



Watch the video



# INTRODUCTION



**RALPH WALDO EMERSON**

(1803-1882)

*"There is no fear like the  
fear of being known."*

**Being found out for what we really  
are is a terrifying experience.**

# INTRODUCTION

- *It may be something you said.*
- *It may be a habit that once had you in its grip and held you in bondage.*
- *It may be the deepest, darkest secret of your life, known to no one, or perhaps to only a few.*
- *It may be a moral problem that haunts you to this day.*

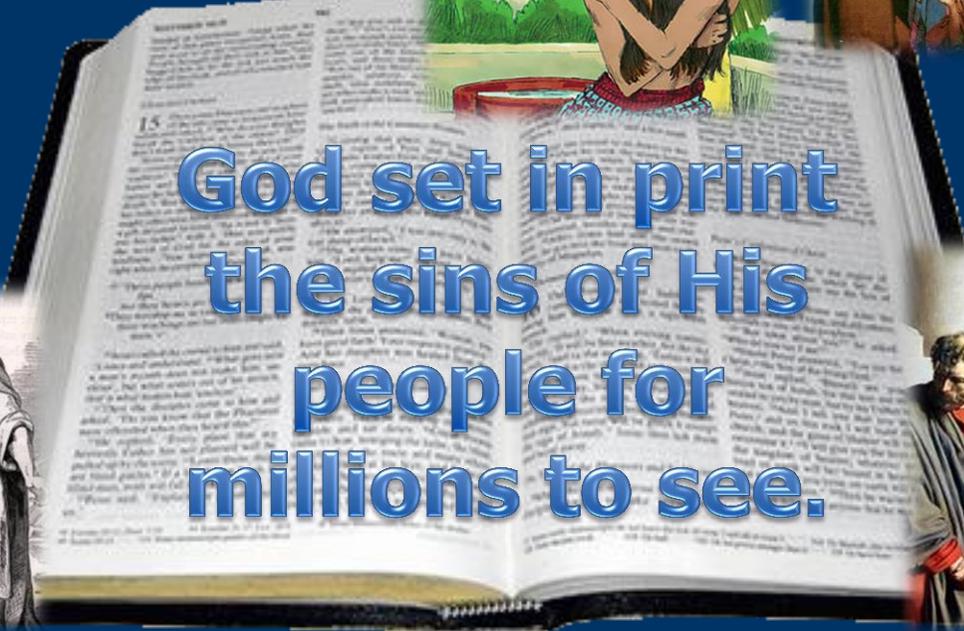
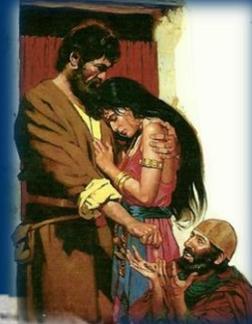
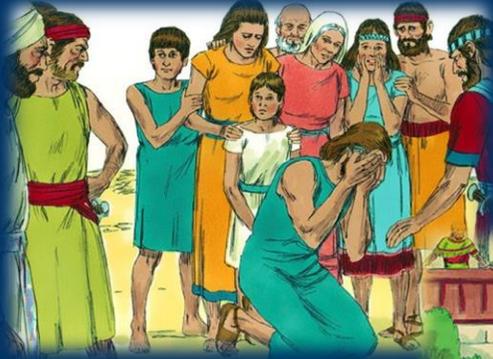


# INTRODUCTION



# INTRODUCTION

AMNON & TAMAR



God set in print  
the sins of His  
people for  
millions to see.



# I. SEVERAL SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

## A. *The Surname.*

*Jn 1:42* And he brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, "**You are Simon son of John. You will be called Cephas**" (which, when translated, is Peter).



# I. SEVERAL SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

## *B. The Declaration.*

*Jn 6:66* From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him. <sup>67</sup> **"You do not want to leave too, do you?"** Jesus asked the Twelve. <sup>68</sup>

*Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. <sup>69</sup> We have come to believe and to know that you are the Holy One of God."*



# I. SEVERAL SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

## *C. The Boast.*

*13:36* Simon Peter asked him, **"Lord, where are you going?"** Jesus replied, **"Where I am going, you cannot follow now, but you will follow later."**

*37* Peter asked, **"Lord, why can't I follow you now? I will lay down my life for you."**



# I. SEVERAL SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

## *D. The Prediction.*

*Jn 13:38* Then Jesus answered, **"Will you really lay down your life for me? Very truly I tell you, before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times!"**



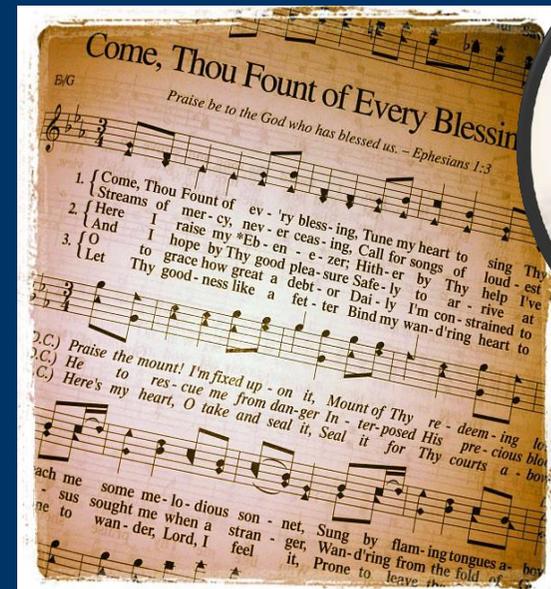
## II. PRINCIPLES FROM PETER'S LIFE

*A. No one, not even a spiritual rock is immune to failure.*

**1 Cor 10:12** *So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall!*

*Come, Thou Fount of ev'ry blessing,  
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;  
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,  
Call for songs of loudest praise.*

***Prone to wander Lord, I feel it  
Prone to leave the God I love.***

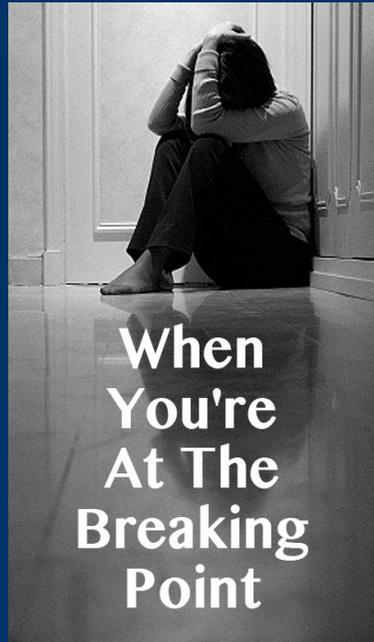


Robert  
Robinson

## II. PRINCIPLES FROM PETER'S LIFE

### *B. God knows our precise breaking point.*

*Ps. 103:14 for he knows how we are formed,  
he remembers that we are dust.*



# III. PROCESS OF DENIAL

## *A. Reliance on the flesh when faced with opposition.*

*Jn 18:10* Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's servant, cutting off his right ear. (The servant's name was Malchus.)

*11* Jesus commanded Peter, **"Put your sword away! Shall I not drink the cup the Father has given me?"**



# III. PROCESS OF DENIAL

## *B. Reluctance to stand alone when in wrong company.*

***Jn 18:15** Simon Peter and another disciple were following Jesus. Because this disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the high priest's courtyard,*

***16** but Peter had to wait outside at the door. The other disciple, who was known to the high priest, came back, spoke to the servant girl on duty there and brought Peter in.*



# III. PROCESS OF DENIAL

## *B. Reluctance to stand alone when in wrong company.*

*Jn 18:17 "You aren't one of this man's disciples too, are you?" she asked Peter. He replied, "I am not."*

*18 It was cold, and the servants and officials stood around a fire they had made to keep warm. Peter also was standing with them, warming himself.*



# III. PROCESS OF DENIAL

## *C. Resistance to be identified with Christ when threatened by the outcome.*

*Jn 18:25* Meanwhile, Simon Peter was still standing there warming himself. So they asked him, **"You aren't one of his disciples too, are you?"** He denied it, saying, **"I am not."**



# III. PROCESS OF DENIAL

*D. Rejection of the truth regardless of the consequences.*

*Jn 18:26* One of the high priest's servants, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, challenged him, **"Didn't I see you with him in the garden?"**

*Mat 26:73* After a little while, those standing there went up to Peter and said, **"Surely you are one of them; your accent gives you away."**



# III. PROCESS OF DENIAL

*D. Rejection of the truth regardless of the consequences.*

*Mat 26:74* Then he began to call down curses, and he swore to them, **"I don't know the man!"** Immediately a rooster crowed.



# CONCLUSION:

Mingling with those shadows are two easily recognized principles that apply to us today.

***A. When surrounded by wrongdoers, doing wrong comes easy.***



**Do NOT fall into  
peer pressure!**

# CONCLUSION:

Mingling with those shadows are two easily recognized principles that apply to us today.

***B. The first step toward correction is not to act like we're strong but to admit we are weak.***

Do NOT act like  
you are strong!



# CONCLUSION

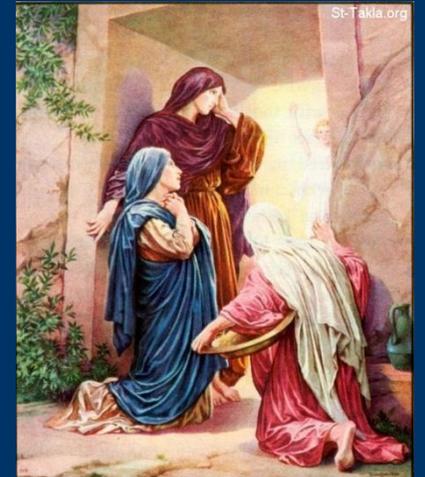
*I believe in the God and Gospel of*



# *Second Chances.*

**Mk 16:6** *"Don't be alarmed," he said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him.*

**7** *But go, tell his disciples and Peter, 'He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.'*"



# CG DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. What is the darkest moment in your life?*
- 2. Is there a moment you fear most that you don't want to talk about?*
- 3. In what ways are we like Peter where cracks are found in our character?*
- 4. Why is it important for us to recognize our weaknesses? How does God work in our weakness?*
- 5. How does each process of denial lead us away from God?*

*Scripture References:*



*John 1:42; 6:66-69; 13:36-38; 18:10-18, 25-27; Matt. 26:73-74; Mark 16:6-7;  
1 Cor. 19:12.*