And the Lord turned and looked at Peter Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how He had said to him, "Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times."

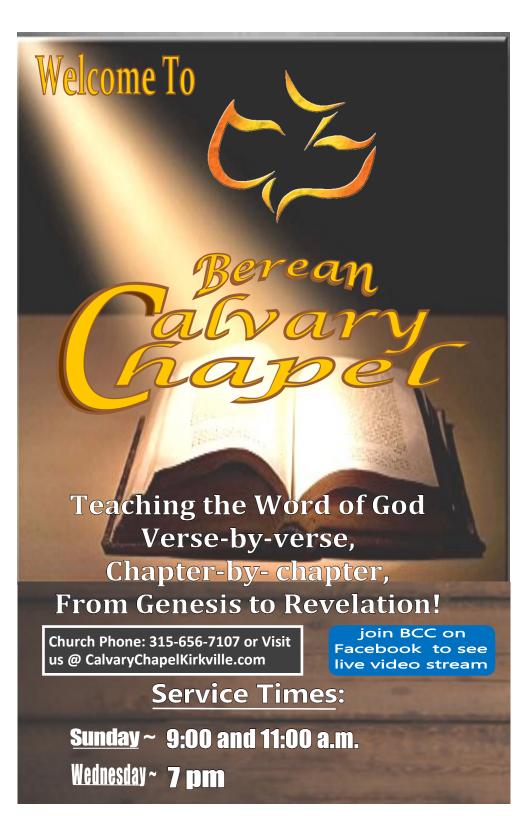
Poor Peter. Like Humpty Dumpty, he was headed for a great fall. Jesus, of course warned him of this but also gave him a word of encouragement as well. "Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat. But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to Me, strengthen your brethren." Pete, Satan's going to shake you up and rock your very foundation. You are going to fail, but your faith will not. You are going to leave me and forsake me but when (not if) you return to Me, I want you to strengthen the brethren. Be an encouragement to them. That is always a good ministry for all of us to be in—to encourage and strengthen the brethren. Be a Barnabas, a son of Encouragement. Notice also the grace and mercy of our Lord, he gave him a job to do. He did not sideline him or keep him in the dugout. He restored him and put him back in ministry. So often we think God is through with us after only one spiritual faceplant. No, a righteous man may fall seven times but notice he keeps getting up. That's grace. So too, God is always there to give you a hand up, not always a hand out. Notice also what Jesus did while Peter was in the midst of denying Him. He turned and looked at him. While He was busy being beaten up and interrogated, Jesus knew exactly where Peter was. He never lost sight. So too, God never loses sight of you even when your blowing it. He knows exactly where to turn and look and, with a gaze of compassion, restore you back to Himself without fail and sends you back out.





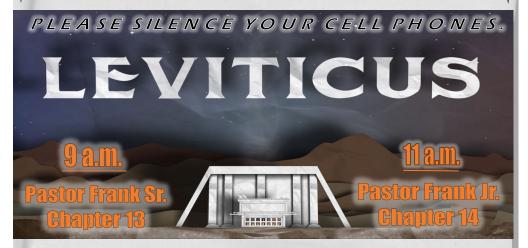






## The Lord's Day ~ September 22, 2019

→ Anyone is welcome to join us at 8:30 a.m. for prayer in the big Sunday School room. →



## TODAY

10:15 ~ PLEASE join us downstairs for Coffee Hour EVERYONE WELCOME!

11 a.m. ~ Children's Program downstairs for ages 2 - Grade 6

## THIS WEEK:

<u>WEDNESDAY @ 7:00</u> ~Discussion Bible Study through the book of 1 Peter led by Pastor Frank Sr., downstairs in the fellowship hall.

The Lord Loves a Cheerful Giver! ~ If you arrived after the Offering was received there is an Offering box located at the back of the auditorium where you can also place your tithes and offerings.

## stay woke

[describing an informed, questioning, self-educating individual who looks past the provided narrative.]

"Awake, you who sleep ... and Christ will give you light" [Eph 5:14].

"And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first

believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand" [Rom 13:11-12].

"We do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal" [2 Cor 4:18].

"Do not be deceived: "Evil company corrupts good habits."

Awake to righteousness, and do not sin;

for some do not have the knowledge of God" [ 1 Cor 15:33-34].

