## The Apostle Peter: A Summary of His Life and Ministry

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## Background

- 1. Peter was his Greek name. Cephas was his Aramaic name. Simon was his Hebrew name.
- 2. Simon was his birth name given by his father Jonah (Matthew 16:17). Peter and Cephas mean "rock", and Jesus called Peter by these names.
- 3. He is always listed as the first of the Twelve Apostles (Luke 6:14).
- 4. His call by Jesus is recorded in Matthew 4:18-20. We also learn that Peter was a fisherman, and that he had a brother named Andrew.
- 5. Peter was married (1 Corinthians 9:5). Jesus healed his wife's mother when she was very sick (Mark 1:30-31).
- 6. Peter wrote two books of the Bible, 1 Peter and 2 Peter. He also helped give Mark the information so he could write his gospel.

Events in Peter's Life

- 1. Peter traveled with Jesus for 3 ½ years.
- 2. Peter attempted to walk on water (Matthew 14:29-30).
- 3. Peter witnessed the Transfiguration of Jesus (Matthew 17:1-2).
- 4. Peter washed Jesus' feet at the Last Supper (John 13:6-7).
- 5. Peter denied Jesus three times (John 18:25-27).
- 6. Peter saw the empty tomb (John 20:3-6).
- 7. Peter saw the resurrected Jesus (1 Corinthians 15:5).
- 8. After Jesus' Ascension and the coming of the Holy Spirit, Peter became the leader of the church which was at Jerusalem (Acts 2:14,22-24).
- 9. Peter did missionary work and preached Jesus as the Christ the rest of his life.
- 10. According to tradition, Peter was crucified upside down in Rome.