

14 Apr 2013 Preached by Rev Quek Suan Yew

**Topic: The Life of Apostle Peter – Peter the tool of Satan**

Scripture Text: Matthew 16: 21-23

1. The Christian is in a battlefield and not in a playground. Do not be lull into a false sense of security in this world. There is no place or position so sacred that Satan and his demons cannot penetrate. If we are not careful, we can become a tool of Satan. Christians can end up being a tool of Satan too.

2. In Matthew 16, we see Peter becoming a tool of Satan. He was the leader of the 12 disciples and yet Satan can direct him to his evil way. When one becomes a tool of Satan, one becomes a hindrance to salvation of others, stumble others spiritually and bear a bad testimony of Christ.

3. In v.21-22, Jesus has told His disciples repeatedly that He would go to Jerusalem, suffered under the hands of the religious leaders and then be killed and rise again on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day. Peter was selfish and self-centred that he would not want Jesus to depart from him by dying. He found the words of Jesus offensive and could not accept it. Peter wanted Jesus to disobey the Father's will. He was used by Satan to tell Jesus not to die. But Jesus must die on the cross to save us and give us eternal life. There is no salvation without Jesus dying on the cross for our sins.

4. In v. 23, Jesus has to strongly rebuked Peter by saying, "Get thee behind me, Satan". The meaning of Satan is adversary. Peter has become an adversary to God's will of salvation and used by Satan in it. Though he was sincere to want Jesus to be with Him, yet he failed to realize that obeying God's will is more important than personal feelings.