

“Peter said to him, “Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you! Get up, and roll up your sleeping mat!” And he was healed instantly.” Acts 9:34 NLT

[lectio] // ACTS 9:32-35

listen to the text by reading out loud slowly and repeat up to 3x if desired

[meditatio]

reflect on – what word, words, phrase, or sentence speaks to you from the text, then write them down

This miracle, where the man who was lame was named in the story - Aeneas, may have been Peter's 2nd miracle. These miracles have paralysis as a common thread, making Peter a miracle leg man. And the town responded to the miracle by coming to believe in Jesus. This passage led me to continue to research the first leaders of the New Testament. Using wikipedia, which may be a bad source, there is a list of succession after the Apostles. However, James (the just, brother of Jesus) becomes prominent in Jerusalem. I will try to map it out on next page.

[oratio]

pray as responding to the words, phrase, sentence that God has stirred within you

Dad,
Clearly the early church was established by men and women of faith, who lived life with a keen sense of Kingdom purpose. As they went about their day, they saw opportunities to have compassion, then faith to be used to further your will on earth as it is in heaven. What a joy! What courage to act on what they had seen and believed, but now put into practice. I was not disciplined or mentored to learn that kind of faith. That's why it feels so awkward to practice any kind of faith (miracles or not) in my everyday life. I look, but I do not see with eyes of faith. I look with eyes of compassion and simply "wish" I could do something about it. I have great empathy, but little faith to change a person's life.

[contemplatio]

rest in the presence of God, allowing the words revealed to take root

He is traditionally counted as the first Bishop of Rome—or pope—and also by Eastern Christian tradition as the first Patriarch of Antioch.

The Gospels and Acts portray Peter as most prominent apostle, though he denied Jesus three times during the events of the crucifixion. According to the Christian tradition, Peter was the first to whom Jesus appeared, balancing Peter's denial and restoring his position. Peter is regarded as the first leader of the early Church, though he was soon eclipsed in this leadership by James the Just, "the Brother of the Lord." Because Peter was the first to whom Jesus appeared, the leadership of Peter forms the basis of the Apostolic succession and the institutional power of orthodoxy, as the heirs of Peter, and is described as "the rock" on which the church will be built.

Peter was considered along with James the Just and John the Apostle as pillars of the Church. Legitimized by Jesus' appearance, Peter assumed leadership of the group of early followers, forming the Jerusalem ekklēsia mentioned by Paul. He was soon eclipsed in this leadership by James the Just, "the Brother of the Lord." According to Lüdemann, this was due to the discussions about the strictness of adherence to the Jewish Law, when the more conservative faction of James the Just took the overhand over the more liberal position of Peter, who soon lost influence. According to Dunn, this was not an "usurpation of power," but a consequence of Peter's involvement in missionary activities. The early Church historian Eusebius (c. AD 325) records Clement of Alexandria (c. AD 190) as saying,

For they say that Peter and James (the Greater) and John after the ascension of our Saviour, as if also preferred by our Lord, strove not after honor, but chose James the Just bishop of Jerusalem.

James D. G. Dunn proposes that Peter was a "bridge-man" between the opposing views of Paul and James the Just.

For Peter was probably in fact and effect the bridge-man (pontifex maximus!) who did more than any other to hold together the diversity of first-century Christianity. James the brother of Jesus and Paul, the two other most prominent leading figures in first-century Christianity, were too much identified with their respective "brands" of Christianity, at least in the eyes of Christians at the opposite ends of this particular spectrum."

Paul affirms that Peter had the special charge of being apostle to the Jews, just as he, Paul, was apostle to the Gentiles. Some argue James the Just was bishop of Jerusalem whilst Peter was bishop of Rome and that this position at times gave James privilege in some (but not all) situations.



Linus (died c. AD 76) was the second Bishop of Rome, and is listed by the Catholic Church as the second pope.

His papacy lasted from c. AD 67 to his death. Among those to have held the position of pope, Peter, Linus and Clement are specifically mentioned in the New Testament.[1]

Linus is mentioned in the closing greeting of the Second Epistle to Timothy as being with Paul in Rome near the end of Paul's life.

[contemplatio]

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Saint Evodius or Euodias (died circa 69) was an Early Christian bishop of Antioch, succeeding Saint Peter. He is regarded as one of the first identifiable Christians, and venerated as a saint.

Saint Peter became the bishop of Antioch and led the church there. Evodius is said to have been one of the pagans converted to Christianity due to the apostolic work of Saint Peter.

Evodius eventually succeeded Peter as bishop of Antioch when Peter left for Rome.

Saint Evodius was bishop of Antioch until 66 AD, and was succeeded by Saint Ignatius of Antioch. He was one of the first pagans to come to the new church.

Ignatius

Nothing is known of Ignatius' life apart from what may be inferred internally from his letters, except from later (sometimes spurious) traditions. It is said Ignatius converted to Christianity at a young age. Tradition identifies Ignatius, along with his friend Polycarp, as disciples of John the Apostle. Later in his life, Ignatius was chosen to serve as Bishop of Antioch; the fourth-century Church historian Eusebius writes that Ignatius succeeded Evodius. Theodoret of Cyrrhus claimed that St. Peter himself left directions that Ignatius be appointed to the episcopal see of Antioch.

Further research into the office and practice of BISHOP.

<https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bishop>

[contemplatio]

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