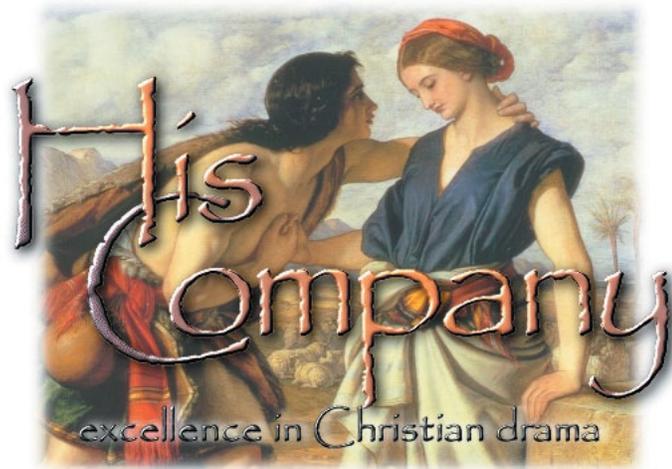


# THE SCARRED ROCK

FROM *THE TWELVE*

by  
David S. Lampel



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**AUTHOR'S NOTE**


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5 The time is c.AD 65. Peter is old, just a few years from his death. He sits at a small table, writing one of his letters and speaking the words as he pens his thoughts. (NOTE: This sketch could also be played with Peter dictating the letter to an amanuensis (secretary)). The bulk of Peter's monologue is taken from scripture, except for a middle section in which he is moved to express his guilt over his denial of Jesus—followed by his joy over Jesus' forgiveness of that sin.

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**CHARACTERS**


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10 The apostle Peter  
An amanuensis (optional)

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**PROPS/SET**


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15 Table  
Bench  
Inkwell  
Stylus  
Scroll

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**SCENE**


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20 *Enter Peter, the apostle. He is old, just a few years from his death. He sits at a small table which is set with a scroll, stylus and small bowl of ink. After a few second's consideration he begins to write, speaking the words as he pens his thoughts. Periodically he dips his stylus for more ink.*

25 *Note: This sketch may also be played with Peter dictating the letter to an amanuensis (secretary).*

**Peter**

30 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to those who reside as aliens scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, who were chosen long ago by God the Father and by the sanctifying work of the Spirit, that you may obey Jesus Christ and be cleansed by His blood.

35 *During the last phrase, Peter raises his eyes from his work. Then he stands, still voicing his thoughts but not writing. He walks about, choosing his words carefully, but not yet addressing the audience.*

**Peter**

40 Live as obedient children before God. Don't let your character be molded  
by the desires of your ignorant days, but be holy in every part of your  
lives, for the One who called you is Himself holy. For you have been  
called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving an  
example for you to follow in His steps,

*(he begins to be moved by his words—and the memories they dredge up)*

45 who committed no sin, nor was any deceit found in His mouth; and while  
being reviled, He did not revile in return; while suffering, he uttered no  
threats, but continued to entrust Himself to Him who judges righteously;  
and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, that we might die  
50 to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed.

*Deeply moved by his memories, Peter turns to address the audience for the first time.*

**Peter**

55 Is it not enough that I admitted my awful sin and received His  
forgiveness? Must I be plagued for the remainder of my journey by the  
guilt of that single act so long ago? No, it wasn't a single act; three times I  
did it and still feel the pain inside me—the same pain my denial must  
have inflicted upon Him. How can I tell these people

*(gesturing to desk)*

60 to love with a love in which I failed so miserably? These people know me  
by name only—my impeccable reputation that has spread across the  
lands. They know only that I walked with the Savior—not that I betrayed  
Him. Did I stand before mighty Herod, my insignificant life hanging by his  
every word? Did I stand before Pilate, as Jesus did, my very breath at his  
65 mercy? No, I stood before street people—people of the same station as  
I—and, whining like a pup, denied even knowing the One who earlier I  
had called the Son of God! How can I speak to them of obedience, when

70 I failed my Lord so? How can I talk of suffering when I so easily ran from a  
chance to suffer with Him? —with Him!

*(after a long pause; resolutely)*

He forgave me, and since He left I have accomplished much good in His  
name. But the scar is still there, emblazoned on my—my very human  
heart.

75 *(beginning to smile)*

That scar—that memory—is my permanent reminder of just how much  
He really loves me. Because He forgave and changed my name to Peter,  
the Rock!

80 *Peter returns to his desk with great enthusiasm and joy and continues writing.*

### **Peter**

85 Dear friends, do not be alarmed at the fiery ordeals which come to test  
your faith, as though they were some abnormal experience. You should  
be glad, because it means that you are called to share Christ's sufferings.  
One day, when He shows Himself in full splendor to men, you will be  
filled with the most tremendous joy! If you are reproached for being  
Christ's followers, that is a great privilege, for you can be sure that God's  
Spirit of glory is resting upon you.

90 And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who  
called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm,  
strengthen, and establish you.

*Peter sets down his stylus, rolls up the scroll, tucks it under his arm;  
exclaiming as he exits.*

95 All power is His for ever and ever! Amen.

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