

47. For Whom the Rooster Crows

I don't seem to get that far into my teaching day when I reflect back and see skid marks down my morning. There are some moral car bungles and wrecks too. I can descend into a critical spiral down and hear the voice of the Accuser of the Brethren saying, "Why bother, you are no good, you are not up to it, quit."

It's at those times when I think on my anger, jealousy, lust, resentment, bitterness, etc. that it helps to think back on the heroes of The Book. They are not stereotype fairytale protagonists, but rather flesh and blood personalities like you and me, a mixture of good intent and selfish choices.

Noah who enjoyed the favour of God, got himself dreadfully drunk and the consequences were serious. Abraham saved his chicken neck from Pharaoh, by taking the cowardly choice of putting his wife into the awful sexual environment of the harem. David dispatches his rival for the woman of his adulterous longing, and Jacob is a picture of deviousness. Samson seems to have it all but chooses sin. Paul and Barnabas go at it like cats and dogs. Peter denies Jesus and then the non-Jewish Christians over the circumcision and traditions issues. Some of the other disciples are squabbling about who will be the greatest in the Kingdom.

The evolutionists claim we have an ancient reptilian type brain, overlaid with a developed brain that rationalizes and moderates behaviour choices. Like Freud's Id, the primitive brain is in eternal struggle pushing to the fore instincts for immediate satiation. These theorists would have done well to read and reflect on what Paul wrote two millennia ago, "*For what I do is not the good I want to do; no, the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing.*" **Romans 7:19**

My students depend on me today to overcome, and my colleagues look to me to fight and hold the line in my patch. Sure, I won't make altruistic choices every time, but the power to succeed comes in the presence of the Spirit. I will not just hold ground either.

I will advance and take new ground today for myself and the Kingdom.

