

Peter Denies Jesus – Lessons of Warning and Hope (Luke 22:54-62)

⁵⁴ Having arrested Him, they led *Him* and brought Him into the high priest's house. But Peter followed at a distance. ⁵⁵ Now when they had kindled a fire in the midst of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them.

⁵⁶ And a certain servant girl, seeing him as he sat by the fire, looked intently at him and said, "This man was also with Him." ⁵⁷ But he denied Him¹, saying, "Woman, I do not know Him."

⁵⁸ And after a little while another saw him and said, "You also are of them." But Peter said, "Man, I am not!"

⁵⁹ Then after about an hour had passed, another confidently affirmed, saying, "Surely this *fellow* also was with Him, for he is a Galilean." ⁶⁰ But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are saying!" Immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster¹ crowed.

⁶¹ And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how He had said to him, "Before the rooster crows¹, you will deny Me three times."

⁶² So Peter went out and wept bitterly.

1. Jesus Is Taken to the House of the Chief Priest

⁵⁴ Having arrested Him, they led *Him* and brought Him into the high priest's house.

2. Peter Follows from a Distance

But Peter followed at a distance.

3. Peter Gathers Around the Courtyard Fire

⁵⁵ Now when they had kindled a fire in the midst of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them.

4. Peter's Three-Fold Denial

a. Accusation #1 – "This one was with Jesus."

⁵⁶ And a certain servant girl, seeing him as he sat by the fire, looked intently at him and said, "This man was also with Him."

b. Peter's First Denial of Jesus

⁵⁷ But he denied Him¹, saying, "Woman, I do not know → Him."

c. Accusation #2 – "You are of them."

⁵⁸ And after a little while another saw him and said, "You also are of them."

d. Peter's Second Denial of Jesus

But Peter said, "Man, I am not!"

e. Accusation #3 – "He is of them, because he is Galilean."

⁵⁹ Then after about an hour had passed, another confidently affirmed, saying, "Surely this *fellow* also was with Him, for he is a Galilean."

f. Peter's Third Denial of Jesus

⁶⁰ But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are saying!"

5. A Rooster Crows

Immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster¹ crowed.

6. Jesus Looks at Peter

⁶¹ And the Lord turned and looked at Peter.

7. Peter Remembers the Lord's Words

And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how He had said to him, "Before the rooster crows¹, you will deny Me three times.

8. Peter Weeps Bitterly

⁶² So Peter went out and wept bitterly.

Lessons of Warning and Hope

1. Jesus knows what is coming. _____ what He says.

2. Jesus knows our _____ & factors them into His expectations of us.

Jesus had clarified with the priests that they had come for Him and Him only. This removed the apostles from the focus of the arresting group.

3. We can wrongly _____ on our strengths and abilities.

Proceeding apart from God's direction equates to relying upon ourselves rather than depending on God.

- Peter's claim of willingness to go to prison or to die for Jesus.
- Peter's attempt to defend Jesus at His arrest.

4. _____ is a major decision driver, but should not be.

2 Tim. 1:7 For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

John 14:27 "Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."

5. Regret cannot _____ sin choices, but sin can be forgiven.

1 John 1:5-2:2 This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. ⁶ If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. ⁷ But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸ If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰ If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us. ^{2:1} My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. ² And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.

6. God can overcome our sinful past as we trust and _____ Him.

We find Peter being used of God to indict the Jews for the same sin! Acts 3:13-15 "The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified His Servant Jesus, whom you delivered up and **denied** in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let *Him* go. ¹⁴ "But you **denied** the Holy One and the Just, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, ¹⁵ "and killed the Prince of life, whom God raised from the dead, of which we are witnesses."