

THE GOSPEL of

MARK

Trial & Denial

So Far.....

Passover Meal with disciples

- bread & cup
- betrayal
- prays for disciples

Garden of Gethsemane

- sleeping disciples
- betrayal & arrest

And they led Jesus to the high priest. And all the chief priests and the elders and the scribes came together. And Peter had followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest. And he was sitting with the guards and warming himself at the fire. Now the chief priests and the whole council were seeking testimony against Jesus to put him to death, but they found none. For many bore false witness against him, but their testimony did not agree. And some stood up and bore false witness against him, saying,

“We heard him say, ‘I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands.’” Yet even about this their testimony did not agree. And the high priest stood up in the midst and asked Jesus, “Have you no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against you?” But he remained silent and made no answer. Again the high priest asked him, “Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?”

And Jesus said, "I am, and you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven." And the high priest tore his garments and said, "What further witnesses do we need? You have heard his blasphemy. What is your decision?" And they all condemned him as deserving death. And some began to spit on him and to cover his face and to strike him, saying to him, "Prophecy!" And the guards received him with blows.

THE GOSPEL of **MARK**

Mark 14:53-72

And as Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant girls of the high priest came, and seeing Peter warming himself, she looked at him and said, "You also were with the Nazarene, Jesus." But he denied it, saying, "I neither know nor understand what you mean." And he went out into the gateway and the rooster crowed. And the servant girl saw him and began again to say to the bystanders, "This man is one of them."

But again he denied it. And after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter, "Certainly you are one of them, for you are a Galilean." But he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear, "I do not know this man of whom you speak." And immediately the rooster crowed a second time. And Peter remembered how Jesus had said to him, "Before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times." And he broke down and wept.

1. Jesus on Trial

a) progression of events

- arrest, Annas (John 18), Caiaphas, Sanhedrin
- supreme court for Israelites, concession by Rome

b) the charges

- 'seeking testimony against Jesus to put him to death'
- supposed to investigate charges, not charge

- Temple Charge – destroy temple & rebuild in 3 days by own hand
 - John 2:19 “Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.”
- Blasphemy – claiming to be God
 - the only charge Jesus gives an answer to
- King of the Jews – before Pilate
 - challenge to Roman rule – death penalty

c) Response of Jesus

- Before Annas – John 18:20-21 “Jesus answered him, “I have spoken openly to the world. I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. Why do you ask me? Ask those who have heard me what I said to them; they know what I said.”

- record stands – ask anyone

- before false witnesses – Silence

- Isaiah 53:7 “He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth.”

- before Caiaphas – affirmation

- I am and you will see....

- Jesus refers to Daniel 7:13-14
- Identifies as God come down, promised one
- Clear – will be returning in power as a judge
- Phil. 2:10-11 “so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

d) Angry Judge & Jury

- mind made up – John 2:14 “It was Caiaphas who had advised the Jews that it would be expedient that one man should die for the people.”
- violent reaction – tearing clothes & pronouncement of judgment
- no opportunity for evidence or testimony, the only charge actually able to prove & defend
- taunting & humiliation immediate

2. Denial

a) Peter

- relationship with Jesus close
- observed and participated in amazing things
- has been having a tough night

b) Followed Jesus vs. 54

- at a distance
- incognito

c) exposed

- you were with Jesus
- hey everyone, this guy is with Jesus crew

d) Response

- who are you, what are you talking about
- get lost your wrong, I am not with him
- I swear – I don't know Him

e) Realization

- rooster crows
- deep shame & regret
- weeping – emotions poured out

Picture with me

- foot race to the tomb
- reunion in upper room
- breakfast by the lake

So What?

Easter Week – looks different than any others so far

- chance to recognize God's provision, love – respond

1. See the Innocence of Jesus

- let it offend your sense of justice
- recognize it as what you deserved taken by Him
- see the blind rage and anger we can get to
- realize He was the one able to go in your place

2. See the Ability of Jesus

- could have called down destruction
- silent, willingly – out of love for us – redeemer
- returning to rule and reign – judge & set right

3. Acknowledge Jesus Personally

- religion prevented recognition
- seeing who He is demands a decision from you
- responses – some violent, some repentant

4. When Failure Hits Your Life

- your intention, desire, experience good
 - your choices & actions – place you never thought
 - your shame & emotion – belief it's too late, over
- a) Run to the Empty Grave – hope & forgiveness
 - b) Meet with Jesus – renewed, relationship restored
 - c) Have Breakfast – new mission & purpose
 - d) Serve the Risen Jesus – empowered differently