



*First Baptist Church of Cypress*

## **THE DENIAL OF JESUS**

**MARK 14:26-31; 66-72**

**Pastor Trevor Cooper**

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Good morning church! I hope you're doing well. Elliot has recently become an avid fisherman. On Father's Day, I purchased Elliot's 1st fishing rod. He hasn't stopped asking about when are going fishing. So if you know of some good places, contact me. I enjoyed my Father's Day & realize the blessing to disciple my own children: I hope I can teach them how to fish for fish & how to fish for men. As we come back, our Church Vision is to make disciples, mature disciples, and multiply disciples.

Mark 14:26-31

"And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. **27** And Jesus said to them, "You will all fall away, for it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.' **28** But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee." **29** Peter said to him, "Even though they all fall away, I will not."  
**30** And Jesus said to him, "Truly, I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times." **31** But he said emphatically, "If I must die with you, I will not deny you." And they all said the same.

Mark 14:66-72

"And as Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant girls of the high priest came, **67** and seeing Peter warming himself, she looked at him and said, "You also were with the Nazarene, Jesus." **68** But he denied it, saying, "I neither know nor understand what you mean." And he went out into the gateway<sup>[e]</sup> and the rooster crowed.<sup>[f]</sup> **69** And the servant girl saw him and began again to say to the bystanders, "This man is one of them." **70** 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." **71** But he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear, "I do not know this man of whom you speak." **72** 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."

Last week, we studied the symbolic meaning of the Passover which is having redemption through Jesus alone and the Feast of Unleavened Bread was symbolic for all who would repent of their sinful lifestyle as they believe Jesus as the Son of God, the Savior and Lord over all. We also studied that Jesus already knew Judas Iscariot would soon betray him but still showed love to him anyway. God's plan was to prepare the way to the cross; filled with betrayal, denial (today), accusations, mockery, beatings, and eventually death for His Son Jesus Christ. This is where we can say *Rom. 8:28* "all things work together for good to those who love God".

Signs of denying Jesus...

### **1. Denying Jesus is Choosing SELF over JESUS.** (v 27-31)

*Ways people would deny God:*

- Disclaiming the EXISTENCE of God
- Believing in a DIFFERENT Jesus than the Jesus of the Bible
- To choose MY wants, MY life over a life Jesus offers

*"Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me." Luke 9:27*

*"We don't need more of Jesus, just less of self. We already have all of Jesus."  
— Burk Parsons.*

- A swift WILLINGNESS can express following Christ at the cost of OUR strength.

### **2. Denying Jesus Makes Us More VULNERABLE to TEMPTATION.** (v 66-72)

- Have a faith that looks FORWARD, not in the PAST.
- Live an EXPOSED life to live a FREED life.

### **3. Denying Jesus Keeps US from HEAVEN.**

*"Deny me before men, I will deny you before my Father in heaven"  
Matthew 10:33*

- God is faithful, but not to US — to HIMSELF.

*"If we deny him, he also will deny us; if we are faithless, he remains faithful — for he cannot deny himself." 2 Timothy 2:13*

- RESTORATION is possible through genuine REPENTANCE.

*"When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Feed my lambs." 16 He said to him a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Tend my sheep." 17 He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" and he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep."  
John 21:15-17*

- Jesus demands TOTAL commitment from His FOLLOWERS.

*"They called them back and warned them that they were on no account ever again to speak or teach in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John spoke right back, "Whether it's right in God's eyes to listen to you rather than to God, you decide. As for us, there's no question—we can't keep quiet about what we've seen and heard." Acts 4:20*

We all have a little Judas & a little Peter inside of us because we are all sinners. Betrayal & denial, lying & dishonoring parents, having lustful thoughts or hating another person in our heart is considered sin. So, today how will you respond to Jesus? Judas had remorse leaving him feel guilty until his death. Peter had grieved his heart but sought a proper understanding of his heart and repentance.