

Mark 14:66-72

The Denial of Christ by Peter
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Structure of Peter's Denial

Mark 14:32-42 - Disciples are ~~asleep~~ **3 times**

Mark 14:53-65 . Peter follows Jesus during trial

Mark 14:66-72 . Peter denies Christ **3 times**

Jesus: Faithful
Peter: Unfaithful

Peter's First Denial

Mark 14:66-68 **ESV** 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, **%**neither know nor understand what you mean.+And he went out into the gateway **and the rooster crowed.**

Mishnah: **%**Where is my ox?+He said to him, **%**do not know what you are saying.+

Peter's Second And Third Denial

Mark 14:69-72 The servant-girl saw him, and began once more to say to the bystanders, "This is one of them!" + 70 But again he denied it. And after a little while the bystanders were again saying to Peter, "Surely you are one of them, for you are a Galilean too." + 71 But he began to curse and swear, "I do not know this man you are talking about!" + 72 Immediately a rooster crowed a second time. And Peter remembered how Jesus had made the remark to him, "Before a rooster crows twice, you will deny Me three times." + And he began to weep.

Applications

1. We should learn from Peter's failure to humble ourselves and rely upon God's power to persevere.
2. We should remember that Peter's restoration proves that Christ's sheep cannot be lost!

1. The Problem of Trusting Self

Mark 14:37 And He came and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep watch for one hour?"

Mark 14:40 And again He came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they did not know what to answer Him.

Mark 14:41 And He came the third time, and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? It is enough; the hour has come; behold, the Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of sinners.

1. Trusting God's Power Is Essential

Being on the alert: Gregareo = found in the faith

Matt. 24:42 Therefore **be on the alert**, for you do not know which day your Lord is coming.

Matt. 25:13 **Be on the alert** then, for you do not know the day nor the hour.

Luke 12:37 **Blessed** are those slaves whom the master will find **on the alert** when he comesō +

1. The Necessity of Prayer in Mark

Mark 9:24 Immediately the boy's father cried out and said, **%do believe; help my unbelief.**+

Lane: %his cry expresses humanity and distress at being asked to manifest radical faith when unbelief is the form of human existence.+

Mark 9:28-29 When He came into the house, His disciples began questioning Him privately, **%why could we not drive it out?+ 29** And He said to them, **%this kind cannot come out by anything but prayer.**+

1. The Necessity of Prayer in The N.T.

Ephesians 6:14a, 17-18 **ESV Stand thereforeō 17** and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, **18 praying** at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. **To that end keep alert** with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saintsō

Colossians 4:2 **Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert** in it with an attitude of thanksgivingō

2. Christ's Sheep Are Secure

Mark 14:27-28 And Jesus said to them, %You will all fall away, for it is written, ± will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.q 28 But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee.+

Mark 16:6-7 And he said to them, %Do not be amazed; you are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who has been crucified. He has risen; He is not here; behold, here is the place where they laid Him. 7 %But go, tell His disciples and Peter, ±He is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see Him, just as He told you.q+

2. Christ's Sheep Are Secure

John 21:15-17 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, %Tend My lambs.+ 16 He said to him again 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, %Shepherd 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 all things; You know that I love You.+Jesus said to him, %Tend My sheep.+

2. Christ's Sheep Are Secure

John 10:27-28 My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; 28 and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand.

Romans 8:38-39 For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.
