

## Daniel Perrin – Lesson 11: Taken and Tried – Thursday September 12: Who Are You?

20 verses – Read it all – Some watching or listening have never heard this. / Break it into TWO PARTS –

Text: **Mark 14:53-65** – *And they led Jesus away to the high priest; and with him were assembled all the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes. <sup>54</sup> But Peter followed Him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest. And he sat with the servants and warmed himself at the fire. <sup>55</sup> Now the chief priests and all the council sought testimony against Jesus to put Him to death, but found none. <sup>56</sup> For many bore false witness against Him, but their testimonies did not agree. <sup>57</sup> Then some rose up and bore false witness against Him, saying, <sup>58</sup> “We heard Him say, ‘I will destroy this temple made with hands, and within three days I will build another made without hands.’ ” <sup>59</sup> But not even then did their testimony agree. <sup>60</sup> And the high priest stood up in the midst and asked Jesus, saying, “Do You answer nothing? What is it these men testify against You?” <sup>61</sup> But He kept silent and answered nothing. Again the high priest asked Him, saying to Him, “Are You the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?” <sup>62</sup> Jesus said, “I am. And you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven.” <sup>63</sup> Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, “What further need do we have of witnesses? <sup>64</sup> You have heard the blasphemy! What do you think?” And they all condemned Him to be deserving of death. <sup>65</sup> Then some began to spit on Him, and to blindfold Him, and to beat Him, and to say to Him, “Prophecy!” And the officers struck Him with the palms of their hands.*

1. NOTICE: Jesus is brought before the Religious Leaders
  - a. The experience of Jesus’ faithful followers will parallel His
    - It will be religious people who turn against their former brethren ...
  - b. Different accusations before Jews & Romans
2. The purpose of the Jewish system was to PREVENT anyone from being condemned falsely
  - a. Not to happen at night – so no sleepiness would cloud their minds / and NO dark shadows could hide the truth on someone’s face.
  - b. There was no Defence Attorney – The Council was the Defense s
  - c. Execution of sentence not to happen on the same day, so they could go home, Fast, Pray, Look for a reason to acquit the accused.
  - d. No witnesses could disagree, or the trial was AUTOMATICALLY ended in favor of the prisoner.
3. But NONE OF THIS was the case for Jesus
  - a. Jesus had threatened their PLACE OF HONOR IN SOCIETY / their ROLE AS INTERPRETERS OF SCRIPTURE / their AUTHORITY OVER THE TEMPLE / their MAN-MADE RULES
  - b. He had NO EDUCATION / NO authority from them / AND He obviously had the power of God
4. VERSE 60 – They will do anything to get Jesus to give them the “CONFESSION” they need ... on a timeframe.
  - a. Finally the High Priest ASKS – “Are you the Christ...?”
  - b. The issue is Jesus’ IDENTITY – “Who Are You?”
  - c. Jesus was not killed for things He had done or said. It was for WHO HE IS.
  - d. The same will be true for Jesus’ true followers before Jesus returns.
    - Those who want to kill Jesus’ followers will be enraged at them for WHO THEY ARE – because they reflect the Character of Jesus.

**Mark 14:66-72**— Now as Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant girls of the high priest came. <sup>67</sup> And when she saw Peter warming himself, she looked at him and said, “You also were with Jesus of Nazareth.” <sup>68</sup> But he denied it, saying, “I neither know nor understand what you are saying.” And he went out on the porch, and a rooster crowed. <sup>69</sup> And the servant girl saw him again, and began to say to those who stood by, “This is one of them.” <sup>70</sup> But he denied it again. And a little later those who stood by said to Peter again, “Surely you are one of them; for you are a Galilean, and your speech shows it.” <sup>71</sup> Then he began to curse and swear, “I do not know this Man of whom you speak!” <sup>72</sup> A second time the rooster crowed. Then Peter called to mind the word that Jesus had said to him, “Before the rooster crows twice, you will deny Me three times.” And when he thought about it, he wept.

5. Once again, the issue is about Jesus’ identity

- a. His security is threatened. He’s backed into a corner and has to make a decision of loyalty.
- b. This (AGAIN) is the situation that God’s true followers will face.

6. We want to say, “I would never do that...”

- a. That’s just what Peter had said
- b. We don’t know what is REALLY in us
- c. So God allows temptation and trial to reveal it
  - **RH, June 6, 1884** – *Some seek to control their surroundings, thinking that if they are placed in favourable positions, the bad traits in their character will not be developed. But God orders our surroundings, and he will place us where we shall have test after test, to prove us and to reveal what is in our hearts.*
  - **James 1:2-3** – *My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, <sup>3</sup> knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience.*

7. Listen to the contrast between Peter and Jesus

- a. Jesus boldly declares – KNOWING that it will mean His death
- b. Peter boldly declares (with cursing and swearing) – “I DON’T KNOW THE MAN”
  - Never heard of Him. / Never heard His teachings / Never seen His miracles
  - He hasn’t changed my life / I’m the same person I always was
  - Peter DENIES that the last 3 years had ever happened.
- c. Do we do the same thing?
  - WHEN the path of following Jesus is TOO STRAIGHT AND NARROW
    - We say, “I’m going to take the safe route.”
    - “He hasn’t changed my life. I’m going to trust my own judgment.”
    - Do we Let Him Conform Us To His Character – come what may!

8. Peter had a second chance

- a. Those who face the same situation before Jesus returns have all the light behind them, and their decision is final.