

BELIEVE

ENCOUNTERING JESUS IN THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

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**The Two
Interrogations**

1² Then the detachment of soldiers with its commander and the Jewish officials arrested Jesus. They bound him ¹³ and brought him first to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year. ¹⁴ Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jewish leaders that it would be good if one man died for the people.

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**1⁵ Simon Peter and another disciple were following Jesus. Because this disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the high priest's courtyard,
1⁶ but Peter had to wait outside at the door. The other disciple, who was known to the high priest, came back, spoke to the servant girl on duty there and brought Peter in.**

**17 “You aren’t one of
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too, are you?”**

she asked Peter.

He replied, “I am not.”

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18 It was cold, and the servants and officials stood around a fire they had made to keep warm. Peter also was standing with them, warming himself.

19 Meanwhile, the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and his teaching.

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20 "I have spoken openly to the world," Jesus replied. "I always taught in synagogues or at the temple, where all the Jews come together. I said nothing in secret. 21 Why question me? Ask those who heard me. Surely they know what I said."

22 When Jesus said this, one of the officials nearby slapped him in the face.

“Is this the way you answer the high priest?” he demanded.

23 “If I said something wrong,” Jesus replied, “testify as to what is wrong. But if I spoke the truth, why did you strike me?”

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“Is this the way you answer the high priest?” he demanded.

23 “If I said something wrong,” Jesus replied, “testify as to what is wrong. But if I spoke the truth, why did you strike me?”

24 Then Annas sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.

25 Meanwhile, Simon Peter was still standing there warming himself. So, they asked him, "You aren't one of his disciples too, are you?" He denied it, saying, "I am not."

26 One of the high priest's servants, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, challenged him, "Didn't I see you with him in the garden?"

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26 One of the high priest's servants, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, challenged him, "Didn't I see you with him in the garden?"

27 Again Peter denied it, and at that moment a rooster began to crow.

Today, John draws a contrast.
**Jesus stands up to his questioners
and denies nothing, while Peter cowers
before his questioners and denies everything.**



There are three dimensions of struggle every believer faces.

We struggle against the fear of people, our self-will, and against the demonic forces arrayed against us.

1. In the struggle against people, Jesus honored the Father, Peter feared men.

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In Matthew 10:33, Jesus warns,
“Whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny him before the Father who is in heaven.”

2. In the struggle against self-will, Jesus always depended on the Father, Peter depended on himself.

“Very truly I tell you, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing.” John 5:19

Matthew 26:31-35

³³ Even if all fall away on account of you, I never will.

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33 Even if all fall away on account of you, I never will.

34 "Truly I tell you," Jesus answered, "this very night, before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times."

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34 "Truly I tell you," Jesus answered, "this very night, before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times."

35 Even if I must die with you, I will never disown you.

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“Couldn’t you men keep watch with me for one hour?” he asked Peter. “Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation.” Matthew 26:40-41

Now we live with great expectation,⁴ and we have a priceless inheritance—an inheritance that is kept in heaven for you...⁵ And through your faith, God is protecting you by his power until you receive this salvation, which is ready to be revealed on the last day for all to see.

1Peter 1:4-5