



Mark 14:53–15:15

Enduring Fiery Trials

Bob Hamilton
August 12, 2018



2 Timothy 3:16–17

All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.

Mark 14:53–55

They led Jesus away to the high priest; and all the chief priests and the elders and the scribes gathered together. Peter had followed Him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest; and he was sitting with the officers and warming himself at the fire. Now the chief priests and the whole Council kept trying to obtain testimony against Jesus to put Him to death, and they were not finding any.

Mark 14:56–59

For many were giving false testimony against Him, but their testimony was not consistent. Some stood up and *began* to give false testimony against Him, saying, “We heard Him say, ‘I will destroy this temple made with hands, and in three days I will build another made without hands.’” Not even in this respect was their testimony consistent.

Mark 14:60–62

The high priest stood up *and came* forward and questioned Jesus, saying, “Do You not answer? What is it that these men are testifying against You?” But He kept silent and did not answer. Again the high priest was questioning Him, and saying to Him, “Are You the Christ, the Son of the Blessed *One*?” And Jesus said, “I am; and you shall see THE SON OF MAN SITTING AT THE RIGHT HAND OF POWER, and COMING WITH THE CLOUDS OF HEAVEN.”

Mark 14:63–65

Tearing his clothes, the high priest said, “What further need do we have of witnesses? You have heard the blasphemy; how does it seem to you?” And they all condemned Him to be deserving of death. Some began to spit at Him, and to blindfold Him, and to beat Him with their fists, and to say to Him, “Prophecy!” And the officers received Him with slaps *in the face*.

Mark 14:66–69

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 Jesus the Nazarene.” But he denied *it*, saying, “I neither know nor understand what you are talking about.” And he went out onto the porch. The servant-girl saw him, and began once more to say to the bystanders, “This is *one* of them!”

Mark 14:70–72

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.” But he began to curse and swear, “I do not know this man you are talking about!” 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.

Mark 14:53–55

They **led Jesus away to the high priest**; and all the chief priests and the elders and the scribes gathered together. **Peter had followed Him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest; and he was sitting with the officers and warming himself at the fire.** Now the chief priests and the whole Council kept **trying to obtain testimony against Jesus to put Him to death**, and they were not finding any.

Mark 14:56–59

For many were giving **false testimony** against Him, but **their testimony was not consistent**. Some stood up and *began* to give **false testimony** against Him, saying, “We heard Him say, ‘I will destroy this temple made with hands, and in three days I will build another made without hands.’” **Not even in this respect was their testimony consistent.**

Mark 14:60–62

The high priest stood up *and came* forward and questioned Jesus, saying, “**Do You not answer?** What is it that these men are testifying against You?” **But He kept silent and did not answer.** Again the high priest was questioning Him, and saying to Him, “**Are You the Christ, the Son of the Blessed One?**” And Jesus said, “**I am; and you shall see THE SON OF MAN SITTING AT THE RIGHT HAND OF POWER, and COMING WITH THE CLOUDS OF HEAVEN.**”

Mark 14:63–65

Tearing his clothes, the high priest said, “What further need do we have of witnesses? You have heard the blasphemy; how does it seem to you?” **And they all condemned Him to be deserving of death.** Some began to spit at Him, and to blindfold Him, and to beat Him with their fists, and to say to Him, “Prophecy!” And the officers received Him with slaps *in the face*.

Mark 14:66–69

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 Jesus the Nazarene.**” But he denied *it*, saying, “**I neither know nor understand what you are talking about.**” And he went out onto the porch. The servant-girl saw him, and began once more to say to the bystanders, “**This is one of them!**”

Mark 14:70–72

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.**” But he began to curse and swear, “**I do not know this man you are talking about!**” 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.

Mark 15:1–3

Early in the morning the chief priests with the elders and scribes and the whole Council, immediately held a consultation; and binding Jesus, they led Him away and delivered Him to Pilate. Pilate questioned Him, “**Are You the King of the Jews?**” And He answered him, “***It is as you say.***” The chief priests *began* to accuse Him harshly.

Mark 15:4–7

Then Pilate questioned Him again, saying, “**Do You not answer? See how many charges they bring against You!**” But **Jesus made no further answer**; so Pilate was amazed. Now at *the* feast he used to release for them *any* one prisoner whom they requested. The man named Barabbas had been imprisoned with the insurrectionists who had committed murder in the insurrection.

Mark 15:8–11

The crowd went up and began asking him *to do* as he had been accustomed to do for them. Pilate answered them, saying, “Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?” For **he was aware that the chief priests had handed Him over because of envy**. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd *to ask* him to release Barabbas for them instead.

Mark 15:12–15

Answering again, Pilate said to them, “Then what shall I do with Him whom you call the King of the Jews?” They shouted back, “Crucify Him!” But Pilate said to them, “**Why, what evil has He done?**” But they shouted all the more, “Crucify Him!” **Wishing to satisfy the crowd, Pilate released Barabbas for them, and after having Jesus scourged, he handed Him over to be crucified.**

What Mark's trial account teaches:

- **The trial is a pretext for a “legal” assassination**
- **Jesus and Peter are the principal players set in contrast**
- **Jesus' endurance and honesty under pressure are contrasted with Peter's impatience and faithlessness**

1 Peter 2:18–20

Servants, be submissive to your masters with all respect, **not only to those who are good** and gentle, but also to those who are unreasonable. For **this *finds* favor**, if for the sake of **conscience toward God** a person **bears up under sorrows when suffering unjustly**. For what credit is there if, when you sin and are harshly treated, you endure it with patience? But if **when you do what is right and suffer *for it* you patiently endure it, this *finds* favor with God**.

1 Peter 2:21–23

For **you have been called for this purpose**, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps, WHO COMMITTED NO SIN, **NOR WAS ANY DECEIT FOUND IN HIS MOUTH**; and **while being reviled, He did not revile in return**; while suffering, He uttered no threats, but kept entrusting *Himself* to Him who judges righteously;

.

1 Peter 2:24–25

and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and **live to righteousness**; for by His wounds you were healed. For you were **continually straying like sheep, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Guardian of your souls.**

What are we to learn:

- **Trials come in various forms throughout our lives and many may be “unfair”**
- **We have been called to emulate Christ in his patient endurance and honesty**
- **We can do this by continually entrusting ourselves to the Just Judge who is also the faithful Overseer for our souls**