

Pastor Jim Jackson, 7/26/26
Days With Jesus, Day 53—The Tale of Two Chickens
John 18:12-27

Jesus is brave among the MOB

One of the most humbling times for Jesus as God is when he permits men to arrest him. The sovereign Creator of the universe allowed his hands to be bound and let wicked men parade him as a captive when he could've called down angels to destroy everyone (Matt. 26:53). *The less emotional control you have the less you can be used by God* (Prov. 15:18; 19:19)! After being arrested, he was led to the high priest's palace for questioning. During this time, Jesus would show his strength during everyone else's weakness. Not only does Jesus allow himself to be arrested, but his own disciples leave him, and his protégé, Peter, fails him. Despite emotional, mental, and physical abuse, along with relational betrayal, Jesus finishes his mission while loving God and others. *The greatest humility is seen when the greatest disappointments are overcome!*

The high priest doesn't fear GOD

Jesus was arrested at night without charges and interrogated at the house of Annas, father-in-law of the high priest, which was illegal. As Annas already desired to put Jesus to death, he wasn't looking for justice but to find a way to get his will done. Sadly, one of Israel's 'pastors' wanted to hurt Israel's Messiah. *Godless men will use the government to hurt God's people* (Prov. 28:28; 29:2). Jesus was sent to the house of Caiaphas, the high priest, where he was again interrogated and abused. At trial, Jesus claimed to be the Son of Man and would come on clouds of glory like God. This was considered blasphemy, and they sentenced him to death (Lev. 24:16; Matt. 23:63-66). *Wickedness is when your agenda supersedes God!*

Peter fears a young GIRL

Peter didn't believe Jesus when he said he would deny him three times (Matt. 26:34). Outside the house, as he was warming himself by the fire, a servant girl asked about him being a disciple, and he denied it. *When you're afraid, trust the One who can give you strength* (Ps. 56:2-4; Is. 41:10)! Peter was then recognized by others who arrested Jesus but denied it again. Then, a relative of Malchus, whose ear he cut off, recognizes him from the garden. Peter calls down curses from God if he even *knows* Jesus and the rooster crows (Matt. 26:74). *Let your fear of God guide your faith in Him!*