

Matthew 26:57-75

“The King on Trial, pt. 1”

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Discussion Question: What makes Christians afraid to proclaim their faith in Christ?

subject: Jesus' trial & Peter's denial

objective: boldly proclaim my faith in Jesus Christ

I. Jesus' illegal trial (vv. 57-64)

“He was oppressed and He was afflicted, yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so He opened not His mouth.” (Isaiah 53:7)

A. the religious leaders clearly understood Whom Jesus claimed to be, but were unwilling to believe Him

II. Jesus' unjust condemnation (vv. 65-68)

A. “blasphemy” = disrespecting God; anything verbal or written against God's name, character, works

B. Jesus allowed Himself to suffer because He loves us and was paying the price for our sin

III. Peter's cowardly denial (vv. 69-75)

A. other ways of denying Jesus

1. denying Jesus is Whom He said He is

“Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except thru Me.’” (John 14:6)

2. not acknowledging Jesus before others

“Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.” (Matthew 10:32-33)

3. talking the talk but not walking the walk (being a hypocrite)

“They profess to know God, but in works they deny Him, being abominable, disobedient, & disqualified for every good work.” (Titus 1:16)