

Mark 14:53-72

Following Jesus at a
Distance

Mark 14 has 2 trials, 2 stories told side by side:

- 1) Jesus is on trial for telling the truth to save us
- 2) Peter is on trial for lying to save himself

V53-54 Peters Falling Away

V53- Jesus was led to trial in the middle of the night

54- Peter:

- a) Followed at a distance
- b) Sitting with the officers
- c) Warming himself

A) Do we follow at a distance?

John 18:18 Peter stood with the officers and servants around a charcoal fire in the high priest's courtyard

Mark 14:54 "...and he was sitting with the officers..."

Natural progression is to fall away

Sat with the officers to warm himself because it was cold. (worldly comfort)

Do we seek worldly things or spiritual things?

Do we delight in worldly objects or in holy obedience?

Do we chase human satisfaction or Christian service?

Psalm 1:1-2 Blessed is the man that does not walk in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stand in the way of sinners, nor sit in the seat of the scornful.

² But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law he meditates day and night.

V55-65 A Rigged Trial

V53- Jesus brought to trial at night

V55- Chief Priest and council tried to put Jesus to death. Getting facts was a secondary concern

56-59 “Do not bear false witness.”

John 2- “Destroy this temple”

60- The Priest tried to trap Jesus

61a- Jesus remained silent

Isaiah 53:7 He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.

61b- Matt 26:63 Jesus remained silent. The high priest said to him, I adjure you by the living God tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God

Lev. 5:1 “If anyone sins because they do not speak up when they hear a public charge to testify regarding something they have seen or learned about, they will be held responsible.

62-“I AM” and I will judge you one day

63- “Tearing his clothes.”

Lev 21:10 “The high priest, the one among his brothers who has had the anointing oil poured on his head and who has been ordained to wear the priestly garments, must not let his hair become unkempt or tear his clothes.

Lev 10:6 Then Moses said to Aaron and his sons Eleazar and Ithamar, “Do not let your hair become unkempt and do not tear your clothes, or you will die and the LORD will be angry.

John 19:23/24 They took the robe of Jesus and said “let’s not tear it”

This foreshadows the end of the sacrificial practice of the High Priest and opens the way for Jesus to be our sacrifice and our Great High Priest:

Hebrews 4:14 Therefore, since we have a Great High Priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess