

# THE PASSION: GOSPEL OF JOHN DENIED

JOHN 18:15-27

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March 24, 2019

**“BROKENNESS MAY BE THE KEY TO USEFULNESS.” – ALISTER BEGG**

*Scene 1 – Peter backs down, denies Jesus, and tries to blend in – 18:15-18*

*Simon Peter followed Jesus, and so did another disciple. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he entered with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest, <sup>16</sup> but Peter stood outside at the door. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out and spoke to the servant girl who kept watch at the door, and brought Peter in. <sup>17</sup> The servant girl at the door said to Peter, “You also are not one of this man’s disciples, are you?” He said, “I am not.”<sup>18</sup> Now the servants and officers had made a charcoal fire, because it was cold, and they were standing and warming themselves. Peter also was with them, standing and warming himself.*

*Scene 2 – Jesus interrogated inside – 18:19-24*

*The high priest then questioned Jesus about his disciples and his teaching. <sup>20</sup> Jesus answered him, “I have spoken openly to the world. I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. <sup>21</sup> Why do you ask me? Ask those who have heard me what I said to them; they know what I said.” <sup>22</sup> When he had said these things, one of the officers standing by struck Jesus with his hand, saying, “Is that how you answer the high priest?” <sup>23</sup> Jesus answered him, “If what I said is wrong, bear witness about the wrong; but if what I said is right, why do you strike me?”<sup>24</sup> Annas then sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.*

- They question Jesus’ teaching and **disciples** but avoid his **miracles** and acts of mercy.
  
- Jesus exposes their conspiracy and they can’t handle the truth.
  - a. *I have spoken openly to the world. 18:20*

How so?

- b. *I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all Jews come together. 18:20*

c. *I have said nothing in secret.* 18:20

Therefore...

d. *Why do you ask me? Ask those who have heard me what I said to them; they know what I said.*" 18:21

E.A. Blum: "It was easier to evade the truth or to silence the One who spoke the truth than to attempt to answer the truth. Truth has a self-evident power of persuasion and those who oppose it find it difficult to deny. Jesus pressed this point and exposed their hypocrisy. They knew the truth but loved error. They saw the light but loved darkness."<sup>1</sup>

Scene 3 – Peter pressured and repeatedly denies Jesus – 18:25-27

*Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. So they said to him, "You also are not one of his disciples, are you?" He denied it and said, "I am not."<sup>26</sup> One of the servants of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, "Did I not see you in the garden with him?"<sup>27</sup> Peter again denied it, and at once a rooster crowed.*

Luke 22:60-62

*But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are talking about." And immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed.<sup>61</sup> **And the Lord turned and looked at Peter.** And Peter remembered the saying of the Lord, how he had said to him, "Before the rooster crows today, you will deny me three times."<sup>62</sup> And he went out and wept bitterly.*

Reminders

- 1) Watch for warning signs.
- 2) Repentance is more than remorse.

2 Corinthians 7:9-10

*As it is, I rejoice, not because you were grieved, but because you were grieved into repenting. For you felt a godly grief, so that you suffered no loss through us.<sup>10</sup> For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death.*

- 3) Failure doesn't have to be final.

Key: disciples/miracles

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<sup>1</sup> E.A. Blum, *John*, in John F. Walvoord & Roy B. Zuck, eds., *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures*, vol. 2 (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1985), 336.