



The Story & Way of Jesus

Denying Jesus

Mark 14

08.06.2023

Mike Gleim

Mark 14:27-31, 53-54, 66-72

“You will all fall away,” Jesus told them, “for it is written:

“I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.’

But after I have risen, I will go ahead of you into Galilee.”

Peter declared, “Even if all fall away, I will not.”

“Truly I tell you,” Jesus answered, “today—yes, tonight—before the rooster crows twice you yourself will disown me three times.” But Peter insisted emphatically, “Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you.” And all the others said the same.

They took Jesus to the high priest, and all the chief priests, the elders and the teachers of the law came together. Peter followed him at a distance, right into

the courtyard of the high priest. There he sat with the guards and warmed himself at the fire.

While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant girls of the high priest came by. When she saw Peter warming himself, she looked closely at him. “You also were with that Nazarene, Jesus,” she said. But he denied it. “I don’t know or understand what you’re talking about,” he said, and went out into the entryway. When the servant girl saw him there, she said again to those standing around, “This fellow is one of them.” Again he denied it. After a little while, those standing near said to Peter, “Surely you are one of them, for you are a Galilean.” He began to call down curses, and he swore to them, “I don’t know this man you’re talking about.” Immediately the rooster crowed the second time. Then Peter remembered the word Jesus had spoken to him: “Before the rooster crows twice you will disown me three times.” And he broke down and wept.

Denying Jesus

Its Forms

Its Causes

The Way Forward

Its Forms

Mark 14:27-31

“You will all fall away,”

Peter declared, “*Even if all fall away, I will not.*”


“Truly I tell you,” Jesus answered, “today—yes, tonight—before the rooster crows twice you yourself will disown me three times.” But Peter insisted emphatically, “*Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you.*” *And all the others said the same.*

IDEAS

The Misunderstood Reason Millions of Americans Stopped Going to Church

The defining problem driving people out is ... just how American life works in the 21st century.

By Jake Meador



“The Great Dechurching finds that religious abuse and more general moral corruption in churches have driven people away. This is, of course, an indictment of the failures of many leaders who did not address abuse in their church. But researchers Davis and Graham also find that a much larger share of those who have left church have done so for more banal reasons...The defining problem driving out most people who leave is just how American life works in the 21st century...The problem is that many Americans have adopted a way of life that has left us lonely, anxious, and uncertain of how to live in community with other people...Contemporary America simply isn't set up to promote mutuality, care, or common life. Rather, it is designed to maximize individual accomplishment as defined by professional and financial success. Such a system leaves precious little time or energy for forms of community that don't contribute to one's own professional life or, as one ages, the professional prospects of one's children. Workism reigns in America, and because of it, community in America, religious community included, is a math problem that doesn't add up.”

- Jake Meador, *The Atlantic*

Its Causes

Mark 14:67-70

While *Peter was below in the courtyard*, one of the servant girls of the high priest came by. When she saw Peter warming himself, she looked closely at him. “*You also were with that Nazarene, Jesus,*” she said. But he denied it. “I don’t know or understand what you’re talking about,” he said, and went out into the entryway. When the servant girl saw him there, she said again to those standing around, “*This fellow is one of them.*” Again he denied it. After a little while, those standing near said to Peter, “*Surely you are one of them, for you are a Galilean.*” *He began to call down curses*, and he swore to them, “I don’t know this man you’re talking about.”

The Way Forward

Mark 14:72

Immediately the rooster crowed the second time. Then Peter remembered the word Jesus had spoken to him: “Before the rooster crows twice you will disown me three times.” And he broke down and wept.

Mark 16:6-7

“Don’t be alarmed,” he said. “You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter.”

1 Peter 5:1-6

I appeal as a fellow elder and a witness of Christ’s sufferings...Be shepherds of God’s flock that is under your care, watching over them...not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; you who are younger, submit yourselves to your elders. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, “God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.” Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time.