

John 18:15-27

John 18:15-18; 25-27 *“(15) And Simon Peter followed Jesus, and so did another disciple: that disciple was known unto the high priest, and went in with Jesus into the palace of the high priest. (16) But Peter stood at the door without. Then went out that other disciple, which was known unto the high priest, and spake unto her that kept the door, and brought in Peter. (17) Then saith the damsel that kept the door unto Peter, Art not thou also one of this man's disciples? He saith, I am not. (18) And the servants and officers stood there, who had made a fire of coals; for it was cold: and they warmed themselves: and Peter stood with them, and warmed himself... (25) And Simon Peter stood and warmed himself. They said therefore unto him, Art not thou also one of his disciples? He denied it, and said, I am not. (26) One of the servants of the high priest, being his kinsman whose ear Peter cut off, saith, Did not I see thee in the garden with him? (27) Peter then denied again: and immediately the cock crew.”*

A. Peter and another disciple follow Jesus afar off (**Matthew 26:58, Mark 14:54, and Luke 22:54**).

1. Jesus had foretold the disciples that they would flee at this time (**Matthew 26:31, Mark 14:27, and John 16:32**).
2. At this point, Jesus no longer has the disciples at His side (**Matthew 26:55-56 and Mark 14:50-52**).
3. John's revelation here about the other disciple is not documented in Matthew, Mark, or Luke.

B. Jesus foretold of Peter's denials before the cock would crow (**Matthew 26:33-35, Mark 14:29-31, Luke 22:31-34, and John 13:36-38**).

1. Peter did as Jesus foretold (**Matthew 26:69-74 and Mark 14:66-71**).
2. You can see Peter's self-aborrence after he denied Jesus (**Matthew 26:75 and Mark 14:72**).
3. Luke recorded that Jesus looked at Peter after the cock crew (**Luke 22:60-62**).
4. Never be so self-confident in thinking that failure is impossible (**Proverbs 16:18, Matthew 26:41, and I Corinthians 10:12**).

John 18:19-20 *“(19) The high priest then asked Jesus of his disciples, and of his doctrine. (20) Jesus answered him, I spake openly to the world; I ever taught in the synagogue, and in the temple, whither the Jews always resort; and in secret have I said nothing.”*

A. Questions about Jesus' disciples and teaching were often asked with ulterior motives (**Matthew 22:15-18, Mark 12:13, Luke 11:53-54, and Luke 20:20**).

1. Remember, they are looking for justification to kill Jesus (**Matthew 26:59-68, Luke 6:7, Luke 19:47-48, and Luke 23:1-2**).
2. We have to be aware that the wicked will try to trap us (**Psalms 37:12; 32-33, Psalms 119:110, Jeremiah 5:26, and Acts 6:9-14**).
3. Thus, we have to understand that there are times wherein we should not engage those who ask dishonest questions (**II Timothy 2:23 and Titus 3:9-11**).

- B. Jesus didn't try to conceal His work (**John 8:12, John 9:5, and John 12:46**).
1. Jesus taught the truth in a very public way (**Matthew 9:35, Luke 4:15, Luke 19:45-47, and John 8:20**).
 2. The work of our Lord was not done "in a corner" (**Acts 26:22-26**).
 3. Like Jesus, our lives are supposed to be lessons for others to see (**Matthew 5:14-16 and Philippians 2:14-16**).

John 18:21-24 *"(21) Why askest thou me? ask them which heard me, what I have said unto them: behold, they know what I said. (22) And when he had thus spoken, one of the officers which stood by struck Jesus with the palm of his hand, saying, Answerest thou the high priest so? (23) Jesus answered him, If I have spoken evil, bear witness of the evil: but if well, why smitest thou me? (24) Now Annas had sent him bound unto Caiaphas the high priest."*

- A. Jesus didn't try to defend himself (cf. **Luke 23:8-11**).
1. For one, they wouldn't believe Jesus even if He did defend Himself (**Luke 22:67 and John 10:24-25**).
 2. Secondly, Jesus has proven Himself before witnesses time and time again (**John 5:36 and John 14:10-11**; cf. **Matthew 9:30-31, Matthew 14:22-33, John 2:23, John 3:1-2, John 9:30-33, and John 11:47**).
- B. Jesus was smitten for no good reason (**John 15:24-25**).
1. Like Jesus, if we are punished for evil make sure they are wrongfully accusing us of those evil deeds (**I Peter 4:12-19**).
 2. Like Jesus, take false charges and punishments with patience (**I Peter 2:20-23**).