

John Lesson 51 Jesus is Questioned and Peter Denies His Master

Pray: Before you begin lift your heart to God and ask for the Spirit's help as you read the passage and work through these questions in His divine presence and you certainly will be given understanding.

Background:

Jesus Questioned by Annas : The First Jewish Phase

Jewish Laws pertaining to questioning and trials: The accused person was held to be innocent and not even on trial until at least two independent witnesses had given testimony that agreed. The accused could not be asked to incriminate himself. Striking a captive was not permitted under Jewish law.

The only account we have of Annas' questioning of Jesus is in the Book of John. Some speculate that John had first hand knowledge and identify him as the disciple who entered the home of Annas with Peter.

Peter's Denial

Slaves acting as doorkeepers in wealthy Jewish homes were responsible for who was admitted. The high priest would have been very wealthy as well as powerful.

The crowing of a rooster for most people in the ancient world, symbolized daybreak.

Jesus Questioned by Annas : The First Jewish Phase **Read John 18:12-14 and 18:19-24**

1. In John 18:12-13 what was done to Jesus and by who? Where was Jesus taken?
2. In 18:14 what had Caiaphas stated previously when advising the Jews? Caiaphas had stated this as part of his plan to kill Jesus. How did He unknowingly co-operate with God's plan for Jesus? See John 11:49-52 and Proverbs 21:1.

Application: How can knowing that God is sovereign over those in authority over us help us when we are dealing with a difficult boss, teacher, etc.? How can this be a source of comfort when we disagree with our political leaders?

3. According to John 18:19-21 what were Annas' questions to Jesus? How does Jesus' answer reflect his character and divinity?

4. What did the officer do to Jesus v18:22 and how did Jesus respond v.18:23?

5. How was the response of Jesus to both the questioning and the physical violence a fulfillment of Isaiah 53:7?

Application: Read through I Peter 2: 21-23. If you find yourself suffering because you have done what is right, how can this passage and Jesus' example before Annas help you?

Peter's Denial (This occurred in the second Jewish phase in the Courtyard of Caiaphas the High Priest.)

Read John 13:36-38, 18:10,15-18, 25-27

6. In 13:36-38 what do we learn of how Peter sees himself and how Jesus sees Peter? What divine attribute does Jesus reveal when predicting Peter's denial?

7. In all of the above passages what do you learn of Peter's character?

8. Compare the way Jesus responded to questioning to the way Peter responded when he was questioned.

Application: How can you personally identify with Peter as he is seen in these passages in your own walk with the Lord?

