

Title: The Denial of Peter (Trial and Denial)

Text: John 18:12-27

Would you, please, take your Bibles and turn with me to the 18th chapter of the Gospel of John. John chapter 18 beginning with Vs 12, as we continue our study of the Passion Ministry of Jesus. We are looking at those events leading up to the resurrection of Jesus.

(1C) Last Week we looked at the ~~betrayal~~^{arrest} of ~~Jesus~~^{Jesus} in the Garden of Gethsemana. Now, today, we come to the TRAIL BEFORE ANNAS AND THE DENIAL OF PETER. John chapter 18 beginning with Vs 12. There are notes in your bulletin. I Invite you to use them. And please follow along in your Bibles.

(Read John 18:12-27)

Prayer

(1D) In verses 12-14, let's look at the high Priest who was behind the arrest of Jesus. His name was Annas. He was the father-in-law of Caiaphas. Both of these men were High Priest. ^{Now} The priestly system was only suppose to have one high priest. But, by the time of Jesus it had become so corrupt that they now had many High Preists.

(1E) Vs 12 says, "the Roman cohort and the commander, and the officers of the Jews arrested Jesus and bound him." Oh, listen, dear friends, please don't miss these little details. This little statement, "bound him" is a fulfilment of prophecy. Let me just throw three things your way on this one alone.

(1F) One, Issac, in the O.T. was a type of Christ.

It was on Mt. Miria that Abraham took Isaac and offered him as a sacrific. ~~The rock upon which he supposedly laid Isaac is setting in the Moselm shrine, right now, in Jersuelem.~~ ^{the}

Did you know that when Jesus died on the cross, even though it was outside the city gate, it was the same Mt, Miria? Mt. Miria is Gologotha, or the place of the skull...FANTASTIC.....

Abraham offered Isaac as a sacrifice. And the Bible says that Isaac was bound. In beautiful type Christ fulfilling the sacrificial type in Gen. 22.

BUT THAT IS NOT ALL.

(2) Secondly, Christ was the LAMB OF GOD.

When animals were sacrifices in the O.T. they were all bound. Psalms 118 is a messianic psalm. It is a messianic psalm that falls back on the sacrificial system.

Let me read it to you.....Psalms 118:26-29

"Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord; We have blessed you from the house of the Lord. The Lord is God, and He has given us light; Bind the festival sacrifice with cords to the horns of the altar. Thou art my God, and I give thanks to thee; Thou art my God, I extol thee. Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; For His lovingkindness is everlasting."

And dear friends, Jesus fulfilled that type as they bound the Saviour and led Him away. *BUT THAT IS NOT ALL*

(3) And third, from Psalms 40, we learn that what really bound Jesus was our sins. This is a beautiful type of binding the animal sacrifice in order

sacrifice to fulfill it. Psalms 40:12 says "For evils beyond number have surrounded me; *their* iniquities have bound me, so that I am not able to see; They are more numerous than the hairs of my head; And my heart has failed me."

Oh, Dear friends, it was sin that bound Jesus.

Now, with that in mind, look at Vs 13. It says, after they had bound him, "they led him to Annas first."

Let me tell you. When I read that my heart just leaped with joy. Because according to Lev. 17 verse 5 the first thing they did after they bound the sacrificial animal was to take the animal to the High Priest. And then the High Priest offered the animal in sacrifice.

And Jesus who was the lamb slain for our sins, whose blood was shed for the remission of sins, was taken, first, to the High Priest. Jesus is the only sacrifice, possible, for the forgiveness of sins. *And he was fulfilling the sacrificial system in every detail. He was the lamb slain*

And then in Vs 14, it was Caiaphas, the High Priest, who advised the Jews that it was expedient for one man to die on behalf of the people.

Dear
Oh, friends, do you see what is happening here? It was the high priest who gave the order for the animal to be killed for the remission of sins. The book of Hebrews teaches that Jesus is the final and complete sacrifice for sins. And there is salvation in no one else. For there is no other name under heaven by which we must be saved....PRAISE GOD.... *Amen*

(48) Now, let me ask you a question: WHAT IS THE KIND OF SACRIFICE THAT GOD REALLY DESIRES IN OUR LIVES.?

You see, I really want to serve God. I want to please Him. And I am sure that you do to. But, so often it seems that we don't please God. We don't follow through with what we know the Bible teaches. *Oh,* we want to please Him, but we don't know what or how....

So, what is the sacrifice that God really wants from our lives?

Turn in your Bibles to the book of Hebrews. Hebrews chapter 13.... Hebrews 13 verse 15....."Through Him then, let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name. And do not neglect doing good and sharing; for with such sacrifices God is pleased." *There it is!*

From vs These verses are teaching that the sacrifice that God really wants from us is *our* "PRAISE". He wants *our* praise. The heart of the Christian life is...that our lives should praise God. That we should praise Him for all that He has done and is doing.

Now, in realizing the kind of sacrifice that God wants from us, there are two things that I want you to understand from *Hebrew 13* Verses 15 and 16.

(18) Number one, in terms of praise, it says, "let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God."

Now, that is an O.T. idea. It comes from Lev. 17:12. When you brought a PEACE OFFERING, it says, "Offer it with thanksgiving and praise to God."

Now, a PEACE OFFERING was not a SIN OFFERING. You were not bringing anything for your sins. It was an offering of gratitude and praise to the Lord... *The peace offering, Lev. 17:12, 17:15, 17:16, 17:18, 17:22, 17:25, 17:26, 17:27, 17:28, 17:29, 17:30, 17:31, 17:32, 17:33, 17:34, 17:35, 17:36, 17:37, 17:38, 17:39, 17:40, 17:41, 17:42, 17:43, 17:44, 17:45, 17:46, 17:47, 17:48, 17:49, 17:50, 17:51, 17:52, 17:53, 17:54, 17:55, 17:56, 17:57, 17:58, 17:59, 17:60, 17:61, 17:62, 17:63, 17:64, 17:65, 17:66, 17:67, 17:68, 17:69, 17:70, 17:71, 17:72, 17:73, 17:74, 17:75, 17:76, 17:77, 17:78, 17:79, 17:80, 17:81, 17:82, 17:83, 17:84, 17:85, 17:86, 17:87, 17:88, 17:89, 17:90, 17:91, 17:92, 17:93, 17:94, 17:95, 17:96, 17:97, 17:98, 17:99, 17:100*

And so, God is saying here in Hebrews 13:15, "Let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God."

Now, in the O.T. PEACE OFFERING you would bring an animal for sacrifice. But, in the ^{Hebrews} ~~N.T.~~ it says to bring "the fruit of lips."

Do you understand the meaning here? This is beautiful in application. The sacrifice that God really wants is WORDS from our mouth that are constantly praising Him. Giving praise to his name.

And that really hit a note in my mind. Because so often we are critical, discouraging in the things that we say. So often we say things that hurt people, we judge people as to their motives and intents. OK God!

And when we do that, we are not praising God. You see, this doesn't mean just to praise God in a worship service. It means that we are to constantly, in all of our affairs, praise God. *(and the means is by our words)*

and In Ephesians 5:18 we are told to be filled with the Holy Spirit. Now, what does it mean to be filled with the Holy Spirit? Well, I believe it means that you are praising and thanking God for all things. And to be in a state of praise is to do away with judging, criticizing

Boy, this is so practical in its application.

(2E) But, also, it says "PRACTICE"... vs 16.. "And do not neglect doing good and sharing, for with such sacrifices God is pleased."

This means that not only do I praise Him with my lips as to what and how I say things to others, but I praise Him, also, with what I actually do in my life. You see, living by the power or control of the Holy Spirit is responding with my deeds and my actions. PRACITICING WHAT I PREACH IN OTHER WORDS...

Galations 6:10 says "Let us do good unto all men, especially those who are of the household of faith." Constantly doing good. Not because I am trying to make others think well of me. Not, out-off the motivation of self or to get my way. But, as the product of a life that praises God and thanks God and gives God the glory,

Now, notice the phrase in Vs 16 which says "for with such sacrifice."
WHAT SACRIFICE?.....Words of praise, encouragement, doing good...WITH SUCH SACRAFICES GOD IS PLEASE.

And all of that is the product of a life that is controlled by the Holy Spirit. A life that is praising God and offering thanks unto the Lord....
This is so important.

*ALL of that was a free - free - need
Let's come to the heart of the message
First*

Now, let's come back to John chapter 18....
(20) Beginning with Vs 15 and going through Vs 27, we have the denials of Peter.

As you know there were three times in which Peter was challenged. And three times in which he denied Jesus. And I want to look at them....

(1) The First test, Vs 15-18 (Read)

Now, there are two things that stand out in my mind about Peter in this first test *wasn't he denied Jesus*

(1) Number one, The Bible says in Vs 15 that Peter followed Jesus.

And this simply tells me that Peter loved Jesus. Where were the other disciples? People often comment: "Isn't it a full how Peter followed "a far off"....Oh, listen, we ought to thank God that this man who had just gotten rebuked by Jesus in the garden, at least he followed Jesus.

I hope you see the love and affection that Peter is demonstrating at this point. He was rebuked by Jesus. Yes, he followed from "a far"...But, he followed. All the other disciples forsook Jesus...But, not Peter. And I like that...

(2) *How we, secondly* The second thing that this teaches me is that in Peter's failure to identify himself indicates that he was not willing to pay the supreme price.

Peter knew what the ~~end~~ result ~~result~~ was going to be if things went the way they seemed to be going. And he was unwilling to pay the supreme price. And Jesus said many times about discipleship that if you are not willing to deny yourself and take up your cross, you are not worthy to be called my disciples. *Peter was not willing to pay the price of commitment*

By the way, taking up your cross is not a burden like a physical sickness. So many people use it that way. You know, "I must bear my burden.

OM

I must bear my cross. And they are referring to some physical illness. That is not the meaning of "bearing your cross."

To take up the cross means DEATH...It means you are going out to be crucified. And Jesus said, "If you are not willing to do that and follow me, you are not worthy to be my disciple. *Now, Here in the application*

You see, Jesus wants ~~you~~ ^{us}, as it were, to be put to death as to ~~your~~ ^{our} desires and ~~your~~ ^{our} ambitions and goals in life, the things ~~that you~~ ^{that we} think are important. And He wants the principle of ~~your~~ ^{our} life to be: NOT MY WILL, BUT THINE BE DONE....LORD, I WILL ~~FOLLOW YOU WHERE EVER YOU WANT ME TO GO.~~ ^{Bring The sacrifice That you really desire}

That is what That is Christian commitment.....That is Christian discipleship...That is ~~what~~ ^{what} Christ wants from all of us.....

(2) Now, secondly, notice the trial before Annas in Verses 19-24.

Annas was the real ring leader of the Priesthood. Four things, here.

(1) One, the nature of his examination - Vs 19...says..."The high priest therefore questioned Jesus about His disciples, and about His teaching."

Yes Now, Annas wanted to know ~~two~~ ^{two} things....ONE, about his disciples...Two, about his teaching.

Now, Jesus was always seeking ways to protect his disciples. He protected them in the garden. And he protected them, here, by not naming them and telling Annas where they were. Again, this speaks to the wonderful protection of Jesus in the life of the believer.

But, concerning his teaching, they were trying to trap him and accuse him. And Jesus said in Vs 20..."I have spoken openly to the world; I always taught in synagogues, and in the temple, where all the Jews come together; and I spoke nothing in secret."

(2) Secondly, concerning the trial, notice the necessity of this examination according to Vs 21. "Jesus said, "Why do you question me"....Hay! there isn't any reason for these questions. You already know the answers."

The point is You see, they couldn't trap Jesus in the temple. They tried many times, but they could never trap Him. And here they are trying to trap Him once again. And the Bible says that they learned that He spoke with authority and no man could challenge His words.....

(3) Third, notice the meanness of this officer's reaction to Jesus in Vs 22 Vs 22... "And when He had said this, one of the officers standing by gave Jesus a blow." Think about that.... The son of God, and this officer striking Him simply because He said that He had never done anything in secret.

Why do I point that out? Believe once again

By the way, that is ~~also another~~ fulfillment of prophecy. I mentioned last week that on this one day Jesus fulfilled over 30 O.T. prophecies.... And this is another example of a prophecy being fulfilled.

It comes from Micah 5:1-2. "They will smite the judge of Israel on the cheek".....HOW WONDERFUL IS THE WORD OF GOD.

(4) Then fourth, notice in Vs 24, the need for further examination.

They could not trap Jesus. So, Annas sent Him bound to Caiaphas the High Priest.....

(3) This brings us to the second test of Peter ...

Peter was standing and warming himself by the fire and they said to him in Vs 25, "Are you not one of His disciples"?. And Peter denied it and said, " I AM NOT." *Again he wasn't willing to pay the price of commitment*
Silent Beliefs

Peter could see all the questioning and torture of Jesus. He was standing right outside the court room. And yet, he said, "I AM NOT ONE OF THE DISCIPLES."

(4) Then, the third test.. This test came through a relative of Malchus. Vs 26 says...."One of the slaves of the high priest, being a relative of the one whose ear Peter cut off, said, "Did I not see you in the garden with Him? Peter therefore denied it again; and immediately a cock crowed."

At this point, you need to compare the other Gospel accounts. The other Gospels say that Peter when he heard the cock crow, he crused....he swore... He got very angrey. Luke says that when Peter denied Jesus this third time, the Lord turned and looked at Peter and Peter turn away and wept bitterly.... The look of Jesus crushed Peter's heart and he turned away and wept bitterly..

Do We really do that?

He denied the Lord, who loved him... ~~Just like we do, oh, so often.~~ Christ loves us just as much as he loved Peter. And He really wants us to be saved.

And ~~some of you, here this morning,~~ *There are those folks who* continue to listen to the truth of the Gospel, and yet, you have never bowed ~~your~~ *their* knee to Jesus as Lord. He loves you

And He wants you to be saved. He wants you to be part of His church. And yet ~~we~~ *and other things are more important* you continue to hold back. *than Christ and his church.*

And I want to say ~~to you~~ *in love* that you will never have peace and joy and happiness in your heart until you know that you are personally related to Jesus Christ and His church.

me Oh, I know that you can belong to the invisible church. And you might feel that that is enough. But it isn't. God, also, established the visible *local* church. And it is his will that you put your name on the dotted line and stand up and be counted in this wicked generation.

So, many people are interested in religion. And I am thankful for that. The world wide interest of people in ultimate reality. They want to know if there is a God. And they want to know if that God has revealed himself. And that is good. I am glad people are concerned.

And there is often a great interest about Jesus. People are interested about the facts of His life. Courses of study are being offered in ~~all~~ *not* of the major colleges and universities on the life of Christ and the New Testament as literature. In fact I taught a course on the life of Jesus *in the N.T.* at Taft Jr. College. And I believe all of that is good.

But, I want to tell you something. You may have heard all these facts about Jesus, but if you have never been personally related to Him, you will never experience the peace and the joy and the confidence that a real believer possesses...

It is not because we have facts about Jesus which saves us. But it is because we have committed ourselves to those facts and we believe them to be true. And we have now trusted those facts for ourselves. *It is because* We believe personally in Jesus Christ as God. And we believe that he died on the cross for our sins. And He rose from the dead for our justification. ~~and believe~~

And we believe that God, now, has come to live in our lives. And we have been born again by the Holy Spirit.

Some of you listening to me, right now, ^{maybe} do not realize that you are spiritual dead. The Bible says that you are dead in your trespasses and sins. That is your condition. You are lost. You are separated from God's love. And your eternal destination, if you continue in your present state, is Hell... And your ^{sin} ~~sin~~ is keeping you from fellowship with God.

But, the Bible, also, teaches that the moment you confess your sin and place your faith and trust in Jesus christ, at that moment you become a part of the family of God. You are saved and placed into God's family. And in that new position you can enjoy the confidence of life and life more abundantly.....

Do not let sin keep you from God.....Receive Jesus today.

~~And do not let pride or anything else keep you from joining God's church. Stand and be counted with other believers for your faith and trust in Jesus.~~

Let us close in prayer

and finally, do not serve Christ, but constantly bring the sacrifice that is pleasing to God — our praise, words of encouragement, and deeds For that is God's will for your life