



So far in our Easter series entitled HONOR vs. DISHONOR, we saw:

1. DISHONOR: Judas met with the priests to plan to betray Jesus

Dishonorable people seek out other dishonorable people to do their dirty work.

2. HONOR: A woman, who was a sinner, poured out her heart and soul in worship to Jesus

She understood God's forgiveness and learned the past is the past and she has a new future.

Today;

The disciple Peter, brings DISHONOR to Jesus.

Tho a:

- Follower
- Participant
- Confessor of the Christ

He still had a moment of failure and dishonored the Lord.

But the good news is, he found forgiveness.

Mt 26 at the Passover meal:

- Jesus identified Judas as the betrayer
- He instituted the Lord's Supper
- The disciples argued who was the best disciple

v.29 At the end of the meal Jesus said;

But I say to you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father's kingdom."

Jesus had what one man (Barclay) called a "divine optimism."

He was going out to Gethsemane, out to be tried before the High Priest, then to Pilate, then to the Cross.

But He never saw it as defeat. It was the way t glory.

He wasn't just on His way to Calvary, but on His way to His throne.

v.30 *After singing a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.*

v.31 *Then Jesus *said to them, "You will all fall away because of Me this night, for it is written, 'I WILL STRIKE DOWN THE SHEPHERD, AND THE SHEEP OF THE FLOCK SHALL BE SCATTERED.'*

Prophecy

Zec 13:7 Jesus knew His scriptures:

Awake, O sword, against My Shepherd, And against the man, My Associate," Declares the LORD of hosts. "Strike the Shepherd that the sheep may be scattered; And I will turn My hand against the little ones.

Can you see the value of knowing the Word of God? It gives you a "heads up" on many things that will happen in the future. And for Jesus it was very personal.

Though He said He would be struck down; He continued;

V.32 *"But after I have been raised, I will go ahead of you to Galilee."*

But;

Peter, like so many people, doesn't pay attention to the whole matter. Isn't that just like us?

We hear something negative, and shut down to what follows.

So Peter didn't hear "After I am raised, I will go ahead of you into Galilee."

Jesus saw beyond the Cross, beyond the suffering, beyond the trial. A good lesson for us maybe?

v.33 He makes a very bold statement, even contradicting Jesus:

But Peter said to Him, "Even though all may fall away because of You, I will never fall away."

Peter was always one to speak his mind, even before others had a chance to.

Peter is in danger:

He has an overestimation of himself.

So,

Jesus is going to teach him a lesson:

v.34 *Jesus said to him, "Truly I say to you that this very night, before a rooster crows, you will deny Me three times."*

Again;

Jesus is telling what is going to happen but it falls on deaf ears.

v.35 *Peter *said to Him, "Even if I have to die with You, I will not deny You."*

Peter;

What did Jesus ever say that didn't come true?

Everything He says comes true.

And yet,

Either you can't hear Him or you don't believe Him.

It's not just Peter.

All the disciples said the same thing too.

Peter;

You are dishonoring the Lord by:

- Failing to listen
- Failing to believe
- Failing to accept God's plan

So,

They went to the Garden of Gethsemane

Jesus was arrested

He was brought to the courtyard of the High Priest

There;

Peter dishonored the Lord.

A servant girl said "You were with Jesus"

v.70 *But he denied it before them all, saying, "I do not know what you are talking about."*

Then;

Another one said; "This man was with Jesus the Nazarene.

v.72 *And again he denied it with an oath, "I do not know the man."*

Then;

A bystander said "You are one of them. Your accent gives you away."

v.74 *Then he began to curse and swear, "I do not know the man!"*

"curse" used profanity

"swear" took an oath

v.75 *And Peter remembered the word which Jesus had said, "Before a rooster crows, you will deny Me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly.*

This is not the end of the story:

1. The greatness of Jesus loves us when we are at our worst.
2. The greatness of Jesus forgives those who fail at their duty.
3. Jesus keeps His word.

When He said He would meet the disciple at Galilee, He truly did.

And when He told the ladies who came to His tomb that Sunday morning, He said to them:

*Mk 16:7 "But go, tell His disciples **and Peter**, 'He is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see Him, just as He told you.'"*

The disciples ran

Peter denied

Jesus forgave

And He sent them out to change the world!