

## **Recap of 6/2/24 message by Pastor Joe (Mark 14:53-65):**

- 1. The main message of Mark 14:53-65 is expressed well in the following passage: "Mark [in 14:53-65] (and Matthew in 26:57-75) sandwiches together the account of Jesus' hearing before the Jewish leaders and the story of Peter's denial before a group of bystanders, for the purpose of making all the clearer the contrast between the courage and faithfulness of Jesus under fire and the cowardice of Peter." (Hurtado)*
- 2. This should cause us to ask ourselves: "Do we hide our faith (like Peter) or do we own our faith (like Jesus) in the midst of challenges to our faith, persecution for our beliefs, and slander? Do we react with courage and faithfulness or with cowardice? Jesus is our role-model (1 Peter 2:20-21).*
- 3. Jesus is arrested in the Garden of Gethsemane at about 2:30 a.m. His arrest is followed by six trials. Three religious (before Annas, Caiaphas, and the Sanhedrin) and three civil (Pilate, Herod and Pilate again) I. By 9:00 a.m. the next morning, He was on the Cross.*
- 4. "Mark presents Jesus as replacing the Temple as the access to God." Jesus' death is the end of the Jewish Temple (Mark 14:57-58). His resurrection is the raising up of a new Temple. His death renders the Temple ritual useless (as the Book of Hebrews shows). He is now the meeting place with God the Father.*
- 5. Another thing we learn in this passage is that we are all capable of the grossest sin, given the right set of circumstances. We must beware of being over-confident in our own strength.  
- "Let us keep far from the brink of evil. Let us not play with fire. Let us not fear being too particular, too strict..." (Ryle)*
- 6. "No, there was nothing fair at all in the trial or conviction of Jesus Christ. He came, He healed, He taught of God the Father's love, and after the mockery of a trial His enemies took delight in spitting on Him and striking Him with their fists. It's something to remember when we feel life is unfair to us. Life in this sin-warped world has never been fair, even to the son of God. The Apostle Peter, remembering that night and the following day, wrote, "If you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God. To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in His steps (1 Peter 2:20-21)." (Richards)*