

“I Am the Resurrection and the Life”

The Gospel of John

John 18:15–27

Read John 18:15–27

1. Peter and “another disciple” follow Jesus to the High Priest’s palace.
 - a. What do we learn about this other disciple from this passage?

 - b. What other details in this passage indicate that this is an eyewitness account?

 - c. Who do you think this disciple is? (Jn. 13:23; 21:20–24)

2. What has been happening in Peter’s life during the last week?


Jn. 12:12–16

Jn. 13:5–9

Jn. 13:36–38


Jn. 18:2–11

3. So, what would you say is Peter’s emotional state as he lingers in the courtyard?

4. Once in the courtyard, why is Peter in danger both physically and spiritually? (vv. 19, 26; Mk.14:32–38; Lk. 22:31–32; *Jn. 15:18–21)

5. Peter’s genuine attempt to be loyal turns into terrible disloyalty. What happens and why? (vv. 17, 25–27)

6. Meanwhile, Jesus’ trial is progressing. The Old Testament prophet Isaiah predicted that the Messiah would be a suffering servant (Is. 53). How are we beginning to see the fulfillment of this prophecy? (Jn. 18:12–14, 22–24)

*The  symbol indicates verses for further study.

7. Why was Jesus' "trial" before these Jewish authorities a sham? (Jn. 11:45–53)

8. With what "crime" is Annas trying to charge Jesus? (vv. 19–21; Deut. 13:1–5)

9. While Peter is out in the courtyard cowering with fear and telling lies, Jesus is inside being interrogated by Annas, the powerful father-in-law of the high priest.
 - a. How are Jesus' attitude and words strikingly different from Peter's?

 - b. Why? (Jn. 17:1–5; 18:11; Acts 2:22–24; Ps. 23)

10. How does the crowing of the rooster (v. 27) testify to Jesus' true identity, which was prophesied by Moses? (Jn. 13:38; Deut. 18:15, 18, 22)

11. Jesus is questioned by Annas, a previous high priest, and then by Caiaphas, the ruling high priest (v. 28). These men are supposed to mediate between God and humanity. Sadly, they show themselves to be corrupt and evil by unashamedly plotting Jesus' death in order to hold onto political power (Jn. 11:47–50). In contrast, how is Jesus the true and perfect High Priest? (Heb. 7:24–27)

12. Luke tells us that when Peter realized what he had done he "went outside and wept bitterly" (Lk. 22:62). How will Jesus' suffering and death bring about the healing that Peter so desperately needs now? (Eph. 1:7; Heb. 9:14–15)

13. If we were being honest we would admit that we, too, are just like Peter and need the same kind of healing. Why? (Rom. 3:9–18, 23; 7:21–25a)

Have you experienced this kind of healing forgiveness from God, through Jesus?

Write a brief prayer asking for this healing or praising Jesus for having received it already.