

When the Shoe is On the Other Foot
Mark 14:53-65

- I. The “Trial” Before the Council
 - A. A few observations for perspective
 1. About Jesus and the Roles He Fills
 - a. v. 53 “They led Him”
 - (1) Psalm 23 The Shepherd leads me
 - (2) Mark 14 The Shepherd is led by the sheep.
 - (3) The roles are reversed
 - b. v. 53 “to the High Priest”
 - (1) It is the role of the High Priest to slaughter the Lamb on the Day of Atonement
 - (2) Isaiah 53: Jesus is the Lamb led to the slaughter
 - (3) Hebrews tells us Christ is our High Priest
 - (4) The roles are reversed
 - c. v. 53 “came together”
 - (1) Like vultures they gathered of their own accord for their own agenda
 - (2) Christ gathers God’s people from among all nations, tribes, tongues, and people for God’s glorious agenda not of death but of salvation and eternal life.
 - (3) At the moment, the roles are reversed
 2. About Peter and the flow of the text
 - a. Peter’s story is interwoven with Jesus story in Mark 14
 - b. Mark compares them to showcase the differences between them
 - (1) Peter will be our focus next week.
 - (2) Jesus is our focus today
 3. About the “Trial” v. 55
 - a. This is not a trial to determine a verdict
 - b. This is an arrest interview to determine probably cause that will lead to a guilty verdict punishable by death
 - (1) May bore false witness but because the witnesses’ stories did not agree, there could be no legal charge against Jesus with which they could present Him to the Roman governor
 - (2) They are looking for a legal means to do what they believe must be done
 4. About the Charge v. 61
 - a. High Priest asks a direct question: Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?
 - (1) This is the key question in the entire gospel of Mark
 - (a) Mark asserts the answer in 1:1
 - (b) Jesus asked it of His disciples: Who do you say that I am?
 - (2) Now the High Priest asks Jesus directly the one question

Mark intends for all of us to ask of Jesus: Are you the Christ, the Son of God?

- b. Jesus answers directly: I AM
 - (1) Jesus answers with self-identification
 - (2) He ties all He has said and done, much of which is the privilege of the Messiah alone, and finally asserted the truth of His identity.
 - (3) Jesus is the Christ, the anointed one, the God-chosen, God-sent Rescuer, the Son of the Living God.
 - (4) Jesus proclaims God's truth
- 5. About the Council's reaction
 - a. Jesus is labeled a blasphemer.
 - b. Jesus is sentenced to death.
 - c. They made their rejection of him personal and physical.
- B. Jesus handed them exactly the indictment they were seeking
 - 1. Jesus tells the truth
 - 2. Jesus advances the redemptive plan of God to which He committed Himself in the garden the night before.
 - 3. When it came Jesus' moment to stand the test and stay, He obeyed and stayed.
- II. When the shoe is on the other foot?
 - A. When the roles are reversed
 - 1. What about when the shoe is on the other foot?
 - 2. When the King takes the throne?
 - 3. When the High Priest ascends the altar?
 - 4. When the sheep are led to the Shepherd?
 - B. NT Personal Judgment Scenes
 - 1. There is a scene where the nations are judged (sheep and goats) but there are two scenes there individual people stand before God for judgment
 - 2. Great White Throne Judgment
 - a. **Revelation 20:11-15 (ESV)** *Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. From his presence earth and sky fled away, and no place was found for them. And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Then another book was opened, which is the book of life. And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done. And the sea gave up the dead who were in it, Death and Hades gave up the dead who were in them, and they were judged, each one of them, according to what they had done. Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.*
 - b. Not a scene of revenge but of genuine justice.
 - c. Everyone is judged "according to what they had done."

- (1) Record books are opened.
 - (2) Personal histories are revealed.
 - (3) Those whose names are not written in the book of life, whose histories are not covered in the blood of Christ, are throne into the lake of fire.
3. The Judgment Seat of Christ
- a. **2 Corinthians 5:6-10 (ESV)** *So we are always of good courage. We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.*
 - b. Written to believers, to Christians, to genuine disciples of Jesus, reminding them that they too will stand before Christ and be judged “according to what they had done in the body.”
 - (1) God saves through faith in Christ
 - (a) God judges in Christ on the cross the sin and guilt of those He saves
 - (b) This is not a judgment of sin for salvation but a reward review for obedience
 - (2) This is not a judgment for determining salvation according to works. This is a final evaluation of the faithfulness of the saved.
 - (a) Jesus said, “If you love me, keep my commandments.”
 - (b) Jesus, when commissioning His disciples instructed them in **Matthew 28:19-20 (ESV)** *Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”*
 - i) Teaching them to observe all that I have commanded
 - ii) Sometimes we get the baptizing and the teaching but omit the obeying, perhaps because we don’t want to be tied down to obedience ourselves?!
 - (c) Paul
 - i) **Romans 1:5 (ESV)** *through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations,*

- ii) **Romans 6:4 (ESV)** *We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.*
 - (d) James
 - i) **James 2:26 (ESV)** *For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, so also faith apart from works is dead.*
 - c. There is a general expectation in the New Testament that genuine faith in Jesus Christ will lead to a life of genuine obedience to Jesus Christ
 - (1) And it is that obedience that Christ judges for every believer
 - (a) The integrity of that obedience,
 - (b) the consistency, quality, authenticity, faithfulness, and extent of our obedience is
 - (2) reviewed and rewarded at the judgment seat of Christ
- C. The shoe is on the other foot.
 - 1. What to do?
 - a. Confess and repent
 - b. Commit to and engage in Spirit-empowered, Christ-exalting, God-glorifying obedience
 - (1) **1 Corinthians 3:12-15 (ESV)** *Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw— each one's work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. If the work that anyone has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire.*
 - (2) Caution:
 - (a) If you find yourself thinking that as long as you get in you won't worry about the rest, consider this: That very nonchalance may indicate your own unbelieving, unredeemed heart.
 - (b) If the guilt of sin and the death of Christ for that sin and guilt does not drive you to your knees in repentance and fuel your desire to obey, then it may well be because your unbelieving heart has not been changed at all and you are still in your sins.
 - (3) What to do?
 - (a) Paul
 - i) **2 Corinthians 13:5 (ESV)** *Examine*

yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Or do you not realize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you fail to meet the test!

ii) **Galatians 6:4-5 (ESV)** *But let each one test his own work, and then his reason to boast will be in himself alone and not in his neighbor. For each will have to bear his own load.*

(b) Take a good, honest look at your life.

i) Does faith fuel true obedience in your life?

ii) Does your obedience fit the model of Jesus who took His stand for God's truth and God's will and God's glory and gave the council a reason to condemn Him?

iii) Are you keeping the commandments of Jesus?

iv) Are you building with gold and silver or wood and hay?

a) Is yours a life of faith, obedience, and discipleship?

b) Or is yours a life of selfishness, pride, sin, and guilt camouflaged by a false veneer of piety?

2. It is time. The shoe is on the other foot.

a. It is time for judgment to begin with the household of God

b. Let us examine ourselves, as we come to the Table,

c. Let us confess our sins and repent

d. Let us commit once again, in faith and in the power of the Holy Spirit and with this bread and cup to a new level of faith and obedience in our lives.