



June 9

## *Peter Realizes How He Denied Jesus—and Weeps Bitterly*

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I am Yahweh; and there is no other. I have not spoken in secret, in a place of the land of darkness. I didn't say to the seed of Jacob, 'Seek me in vain.' I, Yahweh, speak righteousness. I declare things that are right – Isaiah 45:18-19

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[John 18:19-25] The high priest therefore asked Jesus about his disciples, and about his teaching. Jesus answered him, "I spoke openly to the world. I always taught in synagogues, and in the temple, where the Jews always meet. I said nothing in secret. Why do you ask me? Ask those who have heard me what I said to them. Behold, these know the things which I said."

When he had said this, one of the officers standing by slapped Jesus with his hand, saying, "Do you answer the high priest like that?"

Jesus answered him, "If I have spoken evil, testify of the evil; but if well, why do you beat me?"

Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. When he had gone out on the porch, the maid saw him, and began again to tell those who stood by, "This is one of them. This man also was with Jesus of Nazareth" They said

therefore to him, "You aren't also one of his disciples, are you?"

**And immediately  
the rooster crowed**

He denied it again, and said with an oath, "Man, I am not. I don't know the man."

After about one hour passed One of the servants of the high priest, being a relative of him whose ear Peter had cut off, said, "Didn't I see you in the garden with him? Surely you are also one of them, for your speech makes you known: for you are a Galilean."

Peter therefore began to curse, to swear, and denied it again: "I don't know this man of whom you speak! Man, I don't know what you are talking about!" and immediately the rooster crowed the second time. The Lord turned, and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word, how that Jesus said to him, "Before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times." When he thought about that, he went out and wept bitterly. [Matthew 26:71-75, Mark 14:69-72, Luke 22:58-62]

1. What were Jesus' circumstances? Peter's? How did each respond? How do you? Why?
2. What kind of look did Jesus give Peter? How do you know? How does it make you feel?
3. Jesus, you predicted Peter's denial and loved him through it; I don't even realize how I've...