

# TWO TRIALS, ONE TRUTH

Mark 14:53-72

July 6, 2025 | Pastor Keith Krell



## SCRIPTURE READING

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Mark 14:53-72; Mark 8:34-37; Isaiah 53:4-9; 1 Peter 2:21-25; Philippians 2:5-11;  
Colossians 3:1-4; 1 Corinthians 10:12

## STUDY QUESTIONS

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1. How do people try to twist the Bible or put Jesus to death today (14:53)? What are good responses to those arguing against Jesus? In what ways do you act as the judge of Jesus instead of recognizing that He is your judge?
2. How closely are you following Jesus (14:54)? How do you follow Jesus “at a distance”? How have you avoided intimate discipleship out of fear? What step is God asking you to take that might lead to ridicule or rejection? Who is God calling you to engage in a spiritual conversation this week?
3. When have you been the victim of slander (14:55-59)? How did you respond? What can you learn from Jesus’ response (14:61a)? When have you been the victim of physical, mental, or emotional abuse? How does it comfort you to know that Jesus has experienced the same?
4. When have you denied Christ (14:66-72) instead of denying yourself (8:34-37)? What area in your life reveals a need for greater reliance on God’s strength? When has a friend disowned you? What did you learn from this experience?
5. How vulnerable are you to social pressure? How often do you pray for verbal courage? Read Matthew 10:32-33; Ephesians 6:19-20; and Colossians 4:3-4. What are some practical ways you can be emboldened in your witness? How can your community group or Christian friends help you grow in courage and public witness for Jesus?

## RECOMMENDED READING

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Darrell L. Bock, *Blasphemy and Exaltation in Judaism: The Charge against Jesus in Mark 14:53-65* (Baker, 2000)

C. J. Mahaney, *The Cross-Centered Life* (Multnomah, 2002)

John Piper, *50 Reasons Why Jesus Came to Die* (Crossway, 2006)

Steven C. Roy, *What God Thinks When We Fail: Finding Grace and True Success* (IVP, 2011)