



Pastor Scott Archer 07.12.2020\*  
Central Congregational Church  
"For the Glory of God and the Good of our Neighbors"  
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## The Trial of Faith Mark 14:53-72

Series: Getting In on the Good News  
The Gospel of Jesus Christ According to Mark

### Central Passage

**Mark 14:61–72 (NIV)** — **61** But Jesus remained silent and gave no answer. Again the high priest asked him, "Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?" **62** "I am," said Jesus. "And you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven." **63** The high priest tore his clothes. "Why do we need any more witnesses?" he asked. **64** "You have heard the blasphemy. What do you think?" They all condemned him as worthy of death. **65** Then some began to spit at him; they blindfolded him, struck him with their fists, and said, "Prophesy!" And the guards took him and beat him. **66** While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant girls of the high priest came by. **67** When she saw Peter warming himself, she looked closely at him. "You also were with that Nazarene, Jesus," she said. **68** But he denied it. "I don't know or understand what you're talking about," he said, and went out into the entryway. **69** When the servant girl saw him there, she said again to those standing around, "This fellow is one of them." **70** Again he denied it. After a little while, those standing near said to Peter, "Surely you are one of them, for you are a Galilean." **71** He began to call down curses, and he swore to them, "I don't know this man you're talking about." **72** Immediately the rooster crowed the second time. Then Peter remembered the word Jesus had spoken to him: "Before the rooster crows twice you will disown me three times." And he broke down and wept.

**Central Thought:** We get in on the Good News when we learn to rely solely on the courage and the faithfulness of Jesus in contrast to our cowardice and faithlessness.

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### In the hour of trial...

- ❖ We are all Peter - faithless cowards that contribute nothing to our salvation.

**Romans 11:32 (NIV)** — For God has bound everyone over to disobedience so that he may have mercy on them all.

**1 Timothy 1:15 (NIV)** — Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—**of whom I am the worst.**

- ❖ Jesus stood courageously and faithfully alone to secure our salvation – in full knowledge of our failures.

**Psalms 110:1–2 (NIV)** — **1** The LORD says to my lord: "**Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet.**" **2** The LORD will extend your mighty scepter from Zion, saying, "Rule in the midst of your enemies!"

**Daniel 7:13–14 (NIV)** — **13** "In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was **one like a son of man**, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. **14** He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all nations and peoples of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.

**Romans 5:6–8 (NIV)** — **6** You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. **7** Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. **8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.**

**1 Timothy 1:15–17 (NIV)** — **15** Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—**of whom I am the worst.** **16 But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his immense patience as an example for those who would believe in him and receive eternal life.** **17** Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

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