



# THE GREAT CONTRACT

JOHN 18:1-27

Big Idea: Adversity reveals our true faith



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drew it and struck the high priest's servant and cut off his right ear. (The servant's name was Malchus.) <sup>11</sup> So Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword into its sheath; shall I not drink the cup that the Father has given me?" 12 So the band of soldiers and their captain and the officers of the Jews arrested Jesus and bound him. 13 First they led him to Annas, for he was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, who was high priest that year. 14 It was Caiaphas who had advised the Jews that it would be expedient that one man should die for the people.

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    - -"How will they see Jesus unless I destroy them?"



- I. Weak belief crumbles against adversity
  - Sometimes disbelief (or weak belief) can lead us to fight the wrong battles



- Sometimes disbelief (or weak belief) can lead us to fight the wrong battles
- Other times, disbelief can lead us to denial



<sup>15</sup> Simon Peter followed Jesus, and so did another disciple. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he entered with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest, 16 but Peter stood outside at the door. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out and spoke to the servant girl who kept watch at the door, and brought Peter in. 17 The servant girl at the door said to Peter, "You also are not one of this man's disciples, are you?" He said, "I am not." 18 Now the servants and officers

had made a charcoal fire, because it was cold, and they were standing and warming themselves. Peter also was with them, standing and warming himself. 19 The high priest then questioned Jesus about his disciples and his teaching. <sup>20</sup> Jesus answered him, "I have spoken openly to the world. I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. 21 Why do you ask me? Ask those who have heard me what I said to them; they know what I said."



<sup>22</sup> When he had said these things, one of the officers standing by struck Jesus with his hand, saying, "Is that how you answer the high priest?" <sup>23</sup> Jesus answered him, "If what I said is wrong, bear witness about the wrong; but if what I said is right, why do you strike me?" <sup>24</sup> Annas then sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest. 25 Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. So they said to him, "You also are not one of his disciples, are you?" He denied it and said, "I am not."



One of the servants of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, "Did I not see you in the garden with him?" <sup>27</sup> Peter again denied it, and at once a rooster crowed.



- Sometimes disbelief (or weak belief) can lead us to fight the wrong battles
- Other times, disbelief can lead us to denial
  - -Misguided belief tends to be inconsistent











- I. Weak belief crumbles against adversity
- II. True belief overcomes adversity



## II. True belief overcomes adversity

Jesus stepped forward knowingly and willingly



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"Would You Rather"



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- ...be forced to sing along, or dance along, to every song you hear?
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- ...swim in a pool full of Nutella, or a pool full of maple syrup?



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- ...know WHEN or HOW you'll die?



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-Who is the high priest?



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-Whom is actually interrogating whom?



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- Jesus stepped forward knowingly and willingly
- Jesus showed integrity and confidence in the face of adversity
- Jesus did all of this alone (like He said He would)



#### John 16:29-33

<sup>29</sup> His disciples said, "Ah, now you are speaking plainly and not using figurative speech! 30 Now we know that you know all things and do not need anyone to question you; this is why we believe that you came from God." 31 Jesus answered them, "Do you now believe? 32 Behold, the hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each to his own home, and will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone, for the Father is with me. 33 I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

#### Jesus Faces Annas and Caiaphas

<sup>12</sup> So the band of soldiers and their captain and the officers of the Jews <sup>4</sup> arrested Jesus and bound him. <sup>13</sup> First they <sup>y</sup> led him to <sup>z</sup> Annas, for he was the father-in-law of <sup>a</sup> Caiaphas, who was high priest that year. <sup>14</sup> It was Caiaphas who had advised the Jews <sup>b</sup> that it would be expedient that one man should die for the people.

#### Peter Denies Jesus

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#### The High Priest Questions Jesus

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#### Peter Denies Jesus Again

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We take note of how adversity hits us, and how we respond



- We take note of how adversity hits us, and how we respond
- We cannot handle adversity the way Jesus does, without being firmly rooted in Jesus



- We take note of how adversity hits us, and how we respond
- We cannot handle adversity the way Jesus does, without being firmly rooted in Jesus
- We seek to respond to adversity with confidence and with integrity, because of what Jesus has done



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- We cannot handle adversity the way Jesus does, without being firmly rooted in Jesus
- We seek to respond to adversity with confidence and with integrity, because of what Jesus has done
- When adversity comes, "whom do you seek?"

