

Is That Your Rooster Crowing?

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Peter was a prime example of unexpected, ungodly behavior. Peter boasted to Jesus that he loved Him so much that he would never turn against Him. He was determined to lay down his life for the Saviour.

Prophetically, Jesus responded revealing that He knew Peter would deny Him three times (John 13:37-38, Mat. 26:34) before the rooster crowed. After an angry mob took Jesus away, Jesus' prophecy was fulfilled.

When a woman who opened the door accused Peter of being one of the ones with Jesus, Peter denied that he was even associated with Christ. Another

damsel asked Peter if he was one of those with Jesus, as he warmed himself at a fire (Mat.26:71). He flatly denied any association with Jesus. Later, another servant asked the disciple if he was one of those with Jesus; Peter denied even knowing the Lord for the third time. A rooster then



crowed. Peter, I am sure, Gulped!" He had done what he thought he would never do.

Making a huge spiritual mistake can happen to any one of us. We can never let our guard down and think sin cannot control or ruin us. You think you are so spiritual that you will never fall? Be careful; there may be a rooster getting ready to crow for you any minute.

"Sin's payday will be some day."

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We Have A Lot of Nerve!

Bill Brinkworth

After detailing the seven-fold slippery slope of sin's ruin that too many succumb to,



Romans 2 gives a stern warning to many. This admonition applies to most of us. The caution is not to judge others for their sins, as we are guilty of many of the same iniquities.

"Therefore thou art inexcusable, O man, whosoever thou art that judgest: for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself; for thou that judgest doest the same things." Romans 2:1

Most of the time when people judge others:

✚ They do not have all the facts, truth, and circumstances. God knows the truth and all the intents of every instance; we usually do not.

"But we are sure that the judgment of God is according to truth against them which commit such things." Rom. 2:2

✚ They do, or have done, the same sins they are judging others of committing.

"And thinkest thou this, O man, that judgest them which do such things, and doest the same, that thou shalt escape the judgment of God?" Rom. 2:3

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Sometimes we can be very judgmental of a person. When one sins who was doing well spiritually, we are reluctant to show mercy. We often judge their behavior. However, we should remember that no one is exempt from backsliding away from God.

Any one of us could make a mistake and get involved in theft, dishonesty, immorality, or any other sin. It is only God's grace, our circumstances, and our character that separate us from those who get involved in sin. Falling into wrongdoing can happen to any one of us.

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☞ They show no mercy to the sinners and want them dealt with right away, even though they have been spared thousands of consequences for their wrongdoings! God's wonderful mercy and giving us multiple chances often give us time to repent and halt our iniquities. *"Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?" Rom. 2:4* Also: Rom. 2:5.

Again, we have no business judging anyone. We are warned that how we judge others will determine the severity by which we are judged:

"For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again." Mat. 7:2 Also: Mark 4:24.

We will all face a judgment from the One who knows all truth (Rom. 2:11) and will judge all fairly. Ultimately, God will judge every one of us.

☞ His judgment for our sins often occurs during this life. No one gets away with wrongdoing. There is a wage for our iniquity. *"Be not deceived; God is not*

mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." Galatians 6:7

"For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting." Gal. 6:8 Also: Col. 3:25.

☞ Believers will not be judged for their sins (John 3:18, 5:24, 6:40, I John 2:12). However, they will attend the Judgment Seat of Christ:

"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad." II Cor. 5:10 The "we" is referring to Christians. Christians will face the Judgment Seat of Christ. See also: Rom. 14:10.

The believer will be judged for his works for the Lord and get or lose rewards. *"Now if any man build upon this foundation [Christ] gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; 13 Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. 14 If any man's work abide*

which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. 15 If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire." I Cor. 3:12-15 Also: Eph. 6:8.

☞ All unsaved from all ages will eventually be judged at the White Throne Judgment, *"Who will render to every man according to his deeds:"*

Rom. 2:6

"And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. 13 ... judged every man according to their works. 14 ... This is the second death. 15 And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." Rev. 20:12-14.

Unfortunately, judging others is a part of most of our everyday activities. We judge what we think a person really meant when they talked to us. We judge why we think a person did something. An innocent action done by a person may inaccurately be assumed to be done for a wrong motive. We sit on our throne of self-righteousness and judge all around us!

All of us are imperfect. None of us wants to be judged for what we have done. We all want to be forgiven for our mistakes and wrongdoings; yet, we are so critical of others. We have a lot

of nerve! God has spared us much of our just deserts. Why can we not do the same for others?

Other's Sins

The Dawn

During a revival a young man said frankly that he did not wish to be a Christian. When asked for his reason, he replied, "Several years ago I was in a man's kitchen. He finding me there, swore at me and kicked me out. He was a professing Christian, and from that time, I decided never to have anything to do with religion. And I never have to this day."

 The young man was asked to write down his reason in full and sign it. Then it was handed back to him with the words, "Take this, and when you are asked for your excuse on the Day of Judgment, hand this up." The young man saw his folly and came to Christ that night.

Are you letting the sins of others keep you from giving your heart to Jesus? Don't be so foolish, for it will not stand the test of the Judgment Day.

"We evaluate our friends with a God-like justice, but we want them to evaluate us with a God-like compassion."

— Harris



"Don't judge someone just because they sin differently than you."