

Intro.

Mk. 14:66-72

- A. With the passing of time, many things – once common – also pass. (well bucket & dipper, reel push mowers, hoop skirts, ringer washers, options on automobiles: AM radio, “manual steering & breaks, little brown shack out back.
1. While some things pass with time, other things are here to stay: sowing seed, fishing, wedding feasts...
 2. To ~ list of things that are still here & will be from now on add → **roosters crowing** (that turkey woke me up)
- B. In our text, Peter was deeply moved by a rooster that crowed.
1. Christ predicted that Peter would deny Him in the near future, **Mk. 14:30**
 2. Like Peter, there may be times when you and I deny Christ by our speech or actions.
 3. There may also be things that affect us like the crowing rooster did Peter (**vs. 72**), a real *wake up call* !

Discuss.**I. THE CONSCIENCE .**

- A. A good conscience is something for which we should thank God, **1 Tim. 1:5**
1. Conscience may become *seared* -- **1 Tm. 4:2**, or *defiled* -- **Tit. 1:15**
 2. Indian’s conscience = 3 cornered thing in heart; still when good, sticks when bad; ignored, no corners!
- B. *Conscience* stems from the word, *science* which means “*to know*”
1. It is our inborn capacity to judge our behavior.
 2. When we violate what we believe to be wrong, it becomes a type of “crowing rooster.”
- C. When this cock crows, what can we do? (c. **1 Jn. 3:19-21**)
1. We can continue in sin & our hearts will eventually becomes seared, (**1 Tm. 4:2**).
 2. Be like Peter, & be brought to repentance - filled w/ godly sorrow & determination to change & do right

II. GOD’S WORD.

- A. God’s word is a *discerner* of the heart (i.e., a critic – *kriteekos*, *krit-ee-kos*) **Heb. 4:12**
1. The Bible (esp. that which is in our mind) becomes a type of a crowing rooster.
 2. It convicts (**2 Sam. 12:1-13, 14** Nathan & David) & **Ac. 2:36-37**
- B. Sometimes individuals drift away from the truth & the Christian life; so do some congregations.
1. Word of God reminds us to be strong & why it is so important, **Heb. 10:32-35**.
 2. **Rev. 2:5** Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent and do the first works, or else...

III. SOME TRAGEDY IN LIFE.

- A. Christ was going through a mock trial, **Mt. 27:11-25**
1. This shows how corrupt man can become.
 2. We should remember the indignities that were heaped upon Him
 - a. before Annas (former H.P.), he was questioned about His disciples & teaching, **Jn. 18:19-24**
 - b. then Caiaphas (present H.P.), who heard many false witnesses against Christ, **Mk. 14:56**
 - questioned about destroying the temple **58** & His being the Christ **62-64**
 - **Mt. 26:64f** they spit in his face, struck him while blindfolded, & told Him to prophesy, WHO?
 - **Mt. 26, Mk. 14, Lk. 22** Peter denied Christ 3 times. ←
 - Before Pilate **Jn. 18:36f**, Jesus *defined* His kingdom as spiritual & His Supremacy
 - Before Herod, soldiers robed Him in purple & mocked Him, **Lk. 23:6-12**
 - Pilate scourged Christ & again , **Jn. 19:1**
- B. Critical illness or death of a close friend or loved one could be our wake up call.
1. **Ecc. 7:2** *Better to go to the house of mourning Than to go to the house of feasting,
For that is the end of all men; And the living will take it to heart.*
 2. **Psa 90:10** The days of our lives are seventy years; And if by reason of strength they are eighty years,
Yet their boast is only labor and sorrow; For it is soon cut off, and we fly away.
Vs. 11 *Who knows the power of Your anger? For as the fear of You, so is Your wrath.*
Vs. 12 So teach us to number our days, That we may gain a heart of wisdom.

- Concl. A. How did Peter cope with the crowing rooster?
1. He might have desired to kill him! (Would not solve problem. Like breaking scales @ weight!)
 2. I know of times consciences have been stirred by sermons, & the preacher was fired. (ex. Jn. the Bapt.)
- B. If there is a crowing rooster in your life, you need to remember & repent in obedience to God’s will.