

May 31, 2026



**WK 39 –PETER’S DENIALS, JUDAS’S DEATH (MATTHEW 26:69-27:10, pp.307-313)**

In the midst of Jesus’ humiliation and trial, we see acts of betrayal and denial. Judas betrays Jesus into the hands of the Jews. Peter denies any knowledge of Jesus or association with Him. But the people in this account are our representatives. Each of us also sins against Jesus with particular acts of betrayal and denial. **“Even the most devoted Christians sin.”** (CFM, p309)

**How does Judas respond when He becomes conscious of His sin against Jesus?** \_\_\_\_\_

**How did Peter respond when He became conscious of His sin against Jesus?** \_\_\_\_\_

**What do both Judas and Peter need?** \_\_\_\_\_

*Now, strictly speaking, **repentance** consists of two parts. One part is contrition, that is, terrors striking the conscience through the knowledge of sin. The other part is faith, which is born of the Gospel [Romans 10:17] or the Absolution and believes that for Christ’s sake, sins are forgiven. It comforts the conscience and delivers it from terror. Then good works are bound to follow, which are the fruit of repentance [Galatians 5:22–23]. (From "Article XII. Repentance" in The Augsburg Confession)*

**How and why did Judas’ “pastors” neglect him?** \_\_\_\_\_

**Where did this leave Judas?** \_\_\_\_\_

*“There is nothing worse for us than to be separated from God.” (CFM, p309)*

**How did the sins of Judas and of Peter leave them separated from God?** \_\_\_\_\_

**When have you felt separated from God by sin?** \_\_\_\_\_

**What is God’s answer to this “separation?”** \_\_\_\_\_

*“Judas’s sin was no less forgivable than Peter’s sin. Had he waited until Sunday morning, he would have seen Jesus’ victory over death, and could have been restored to the Lord...” (CFM, p308)*

**Why is it important for Christians to make it habit to be in worship every Sunday?** \_\_\_\_\_

**Do we need to “wait until Sunday?” Why or why not?** \_\_\_\_\_

We need the Gospel constantly. Judas needed to wait until Sunday morning. But sometimes we need to receive the Gospel even sooner. Call a Christian friend. Open up the Bible and read God’s Words of forgiveness, life and salvation. Schedule time for private confession and absolution with your pastor. There’s **no point** in waiting in despair. Let contrition do it’s work and quickly “return to the Lord your God!”

**How does Peter’s sin of denying Jesus contrasts sharply with his calling?** (see Mark 1:16-18) \_\_\_\_\_

**How does Jesus restore Peter and renew his calling?** (see John 21:15-19, Acts 1:8) \_\_\_\_\_

**How do Peter and the early church embrace this calling?** (Acts 2:42-47) \_\_\_\_\_

***For Next Time:***

***WEEK 40 – JESUS’ TRIALS BEFORE PILATE AND HEROD (LUKE 23:1-25, pp.315-321)***