

# Why Peter Denied Jesus

*“Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” Matthew 26:41, English Standard Version*

Polycarp refused to \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus. Could we do the same?

## The Unfortunate Fact Of Peter’s Denial Of Jesus

- A. All \_\_\_\_\_ of the Gospels tell of this fact. Did \_\_\_\_\_ intend for us to \_\_\_\_\_ from Peter’s example?
- B. The record of Peter’s denial:
  1. Matthew 26:56b-58 – Peter first \_\_\_\_\_, but then returned to follow at a \_\_\_\_\_ to see how things would \_\_\_\_\_.
  2. Matthew 26:69-75 – After Peter’s \_\_\_\_\_ denial, the \_\_\_\_\_ crowded, just as \_\_\_\_\_ had prophesied.
  3. John 18:18 – There were several around the \_\_\_\_\_ who must have questioned \_\_\_\_\_ about his discipleship.

## What Led To Peter’s Denial Of Jesus?

### A. **Was Peter afraid?**

1. Mark 14:51,52 – A \_\_\_\_\_ man fled away \_\_\_\_\_; that surely points to \_\_\_\_\_ as a motivation.
2. John 18:17 – Lipe states that Peter “perhaps” had an “impulse of \_\_\_\_\_” when confronted by the servant’s question.
3. Matthew 26:74 – Peter \_\_\_\_\_ a \_\_\_\_\_ upon himself!

### B. **Was Peter ashamed?**

1. Matthew 16:21,22 – Why did Peter \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus about His prophecy of \_\_\_\_\_ many things, including \_\_\_\_\_?
2. 1 Corinthians 1:23 – Preaching Christ \_\_\_\_\_ would be a \_\_\_\_\_ to Jews, \_\_\_\_\_ to Gentiles.
3. Hebrews 12:2 – Even Christ saw the \_\_\_\_\_ of the cross.

### C. **Did Peter neglect Jesus’ advice?**

1. Luke 22:31,32 – Peter would be \_\_\_\_\_ like \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_ . Did this put Peter on alert?
  2. Matthew 26:41 – Did they \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ as Jesus said?
- D. Is it possible that we might also deny Jesus for similar reasons?

Matthew 10:32,33 – If we \_\_\_\_\_ Christ before \_\_\_\_\_, He will \_\_\_\_\_ us before His \_\_\_\_\_ in heaven.

*Tim Hall, Central Church of Christ, Johnson City, Tennessee, July 12, 2026, p.m.*