

A silhouette of a shepherd standing on a grassy hill, holding a staff, with several sheep grazing or standing nearby. The background is a soft, hazy sunset or sunrise sky.

# “The Faithful Shepherd”

## Mark 14:27-31

# I. An Ordained Defection (27–28)

- σκανδαλίζω skandalizō (stumble, fall away)
- When used in reference to a person, it is used to describe fleeing from a person because one is offended by what they have said or what has happened to them (as Mark uses here)
- Passive voice: Subject is a recipient of action (lit: being acted upon)

# I. An Ordained Defection (27–28)

- All disciples would temporarily fall away due to the ordained striking of the Shepherd.

Reason: Jesus' arrest and crucifixion (ref: Zech 13:7)

- In the opening declaration, Jesus explains that all of His disciples will temporarily abandon Him.
- The event that will lead to their defection will be the striking down of God's own Son, and these events were long foretold of by the prophet Zechariah

## II. A Prideful Refusal (29)

- Peter denies the possibility of falling away, revealing pride and lack of awareness of his own weakness
- Peter tries to separate himself from the other disciples: even though all of these disciples will fall away...I will not.
- Peter is telling Jesus: “You are wrong”
- Jesus has already prophesied of Peter’s denial (Luke 22:31-32)
- Jesus’ promise: He secured Peter
- Rooted in Jesus’ choice of Peter (John 15:16)

# III. A Prophetic Reminder (30)

- Jesus predicts Peter's three denials before the rooster crows twice.
- Confirmed in Mark 14:66-72

*“this very rooster-crowing is a means of bringing Peter back to repentance, for Christ’s reference to it becomes firmly embedded in his mind, so that at the appropriate moment this hidden memory will suddenly pull the rope that will ring the bell of Peter’s conscience”*

## IV. A Securing Shepherd (28–31)

- Despite their failure, Jesus promised restoration after His resurrection.
- Amidst the disciples' weakness, amidst their pride, amidst their denial of Him, they would find One who had secured them and kept them

# Implication

*In the same way that our Lord remained faithful to keep Peter and the other disciples, He Himself keeps you if you are in Christ.*

It is Christ who has prayed for you, He is praying for you even now, and He will continue to pray for you until His work of salvation is consummated and your glorification is realized

*John 6:37-41,44,65, Matthew 22:14, Acts 13:48, Eph 1:4, Col 3:12, 1 Thess 1:4, 2 Thess 2:13, 2 Tim 1:9-10, Titus 1:1, 1 Peter 2:9, Hebrews 7:25, 1 Peter 1:3-5*