

Mark 14:70

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he denied it again. And a little after, they that stood by said again to Peter, Surely thou art one of them: for thou art a Galilaean, and thy speech agreeth thereto.

Analysis

And he denied it again (ὁ δὲ πάλιν ἡρνεῖτο, ho de palin ērneito)—The adverb πάλιν (palin, 'again') marks the second denial. The imperfect tense ἡρνεῖτο (ērneito) suggests continued or repeated denial—Peter kept denying. **And a little after, they that stood by said again to Peter** (καὶ μετὰ μικρὸν πάλιν οἱ παρεστῶτες ἔλεγον τῷ Πέτρῳ, kai meta mikron palin hoi parestōtes elegon tō Petrō)—The time gap allowed tension to build. Now the entire group (οἱ παρεστῶτες, hoi parestōtes) confronts him.

Surely thou art one of them: for thou art a Galilaean (ἀληθῶς ἐξ αὐτῶν εἶ, καὶ γὰρ Γαλιλαῖος εἶ, alēthōs ex autōn ei, kai gar Galilaios ei)—The adverb ἀληθῶς (alēthōs, 'truly, surely') expresses certainty. **And thy speech agreeth thereto** (καὶ ἡ λαλιά σου ὁμοιάζει, kai hē lalia sou homoiazei)—Peter's λαλιά (lalia, dialect/accents) betrayed him. Matthew 26:74 records Peter's response: he 'began to curse and to swear, saying, I know not the man'—the third and most vehement denial.

Historical Context

Galilean Aramaic differed from Judean dialect in pronunciation and vocabulary. Galileans often dropped or mispronounced guttural sounds (ayin and het), leading to mockery from southerners. The Talmud preserves examples of Galileans confused in Jerusalem markets due to accent. Peter's speech thus served as ethnic/

regional identifier, linking him irrevocably to Jesus, who was known as 'the Galilean.'

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How does Peter's Galilean accent—something he couldn't hide—parallel the impossibility of hiding true discipleship?
2. Why does the crowd's certainty ('surely thou art one of them') increase the pressure on Peter to deny more vehemently?
3. What does Peter's inability to escape identification teach about the cost and visibility of following Christ?

Interlinear Text

ὁ δὲ πάλιν ἡρνεῖτο καὶ μετὰ μικρὸν πάλιν οἱ
G3588 **And** **again** **he denied it** **And** **after** **a little** **again** G3588
G1161 G3825 G720 G2532 G3326 G3397 G3825

παρεστῶτες ἔλεγον τῷ Πέτρῳ Ἀληθῶς ἐξ αὐτῶν
they that stood by **said** G3588 **to Peter** **Surely** **one of** **them**
G3936 G3004 G4074 G230 G1537 G846

εἶ καὶ γὰρ Γαλιλαῖος εἶ καὶ ἡ λαλιά σου
thou art **And** G1063 **a Galilean** **thou art** **And** G3588 **speech** **thy**
G1488 G2532 G1057 G1488 G2532 G2981 G4675

ὁμοιάζει
agreeth
G3662

Additional Cross-References

Acts 2:7 (Parallel theme): And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilaeans?

Mark 14:68 (Parallel theme): But he denied, saying, I know not, neither understand I what thou sayest. And he went out into the porch; and the cock crew.

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