

**"The Denial of St. Peter" (Matthew 26:69-75)**  
**[1660: Dordrecht's Museum, Netherlands]**

Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A female servant came to him and said, "You also were with Jesus the Galilean." <sup>70</sup> But he denied it before all of them, saying, "I do not know what you are talking about." <sup>71</sup> When he went out to the porch, another female servant saw him, and she said to the bystanders, "This man was with Jesus the Nazarene." <sup>72</sup> Again he denied it with an oath, "I do not know the man." <sup>73</sup> After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, "Certainly you are also one of them, for your accent betrays you." <sup>74</sup> Then he began to curse, and he swore an oath, "I do not know the man!" At that moment the cock crowed. <sup>75</sup> Then Peter remembered what Jesus had said: "Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly.