

The Passion Week

Palm Sunday to Resurrection Sunday

Lesson Seven

THE TRIAL BY THE JEWS



Here is an approximate timeline of the opening hours of Nisan 14:



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6pm – 9pm The Last Supper and Judas' departure



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The Last Supper and Judas' departure

9pm – 11pm

Communion, Jesus washes the apostles' feet, John 14 teachings



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| 1am – 2am | Betrayal by Judas and Christ's arrest |
| 2am – | Christ's trial by the Jews begins |

The Trial By the Jews

From in the middle of the night until morning, Jesus was questioned three times:

1. Jesus is brought to Annas.
2. At the palace of Caiaphas, the high priest.
3. By the Jewish council (the Sanhedrin).

NISAN 14

Early Thursday

THE TRIAL BY THE JEWS

Jesus is brought to Annas for questioning.

MATTHEW

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MARK

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LUKE

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JOHN

18:12-14

NISAN 14

Early Thursday

THE TRIAL BY THE JEWS

Jesus is brought to Annas for questioning.
He is asked about his disciples and doctrine

MATTHEW

MARK

LUKE

JOHN

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18:12-14

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18:19-24



John 18:12-13

- ¹² Then the band and the captain and officers of the Jews took Jesus, and bound him,
- ¹³ And led him away to Annas first; for he was father in law to Caiaphas, which was the high priest that same year.



Only John wrote of Christ's trial before Annas.



Only John wrote of Christ's trial before Annas. Annas was appointed by Rome in AD 6 as the first high priest of the newly-formed province of Judaea.



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Ten years later, the Romans removed him from power. He was replaced first by his sons, and then by his son-in-law, Caiaphas.



Only John wrote of Christ's trial before Annas. Annas was appointed by Rome in AD 6 as the first high priest of the newly-formed province of Judaea.

Ten years later, the Romans removed him from power. He was replaced first by his sons, and then by his son-in-law, Caiaphas.

But to the Jews, Annas was the true high priest, and that is why Jesus was first brought to him.



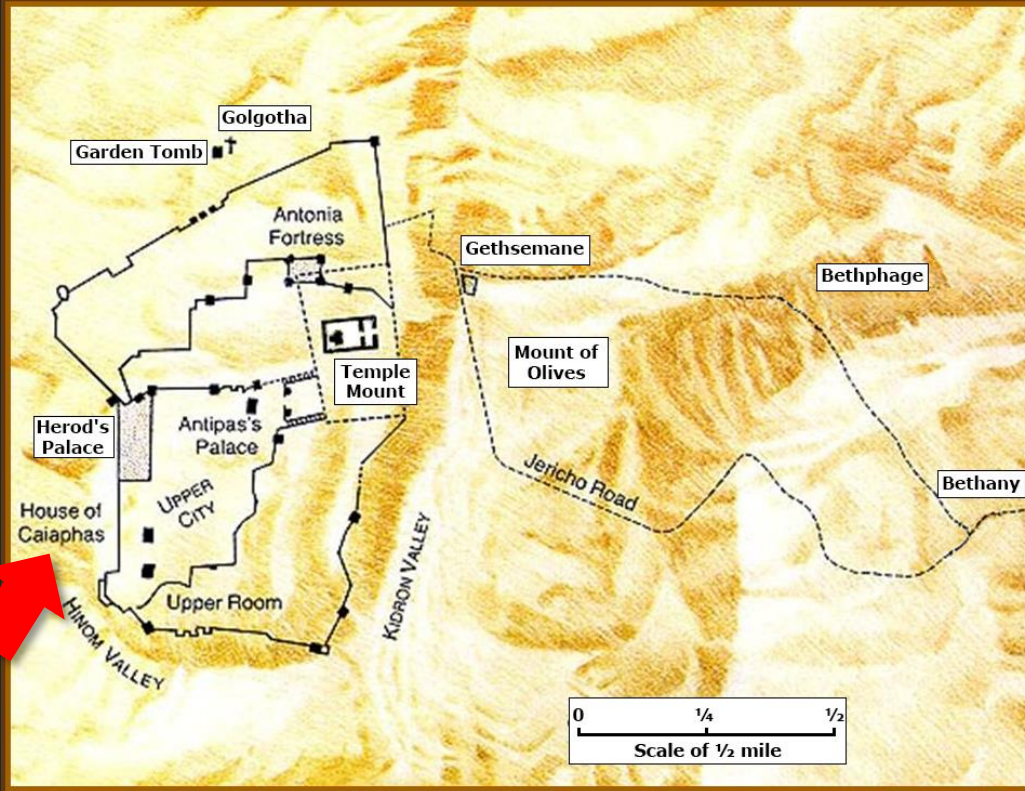
John 18:19-21

- ¹⁹ The high priest then asked Jesus of his disciples, and of his doctrine.
- ²⁰ Jesus answered him,
I spake openly to the world;
I ever taught in the synagogue, and in the temple, whither the Jews always resort;
and in secret have I said nothing.
- ²¹ Why askest thou me?
ask them which heard me,
what I have said unto them:
behold, they know what I said.



John 18:22-23

- ²² And when he had thus spoken, one of the officers which stood by struck Jesus with the palm of his hand, saying, Answerest thou the high priest so?
- ²³ Jesus answered him, If I have spoken evil, bear witness of the evil: but if well, why smitest thou me?



Christ's appearance before Caiaphas at his palace is the *second* part of his trial by the Jews:



This is where John's gospel merges with the other three:

John 18:24

Now Annas had sent him bound unto Caiaphas the high priest.

Matthew 26:57

And they that had laid hold on Jesus led *him* away to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders were assembled.

NISAN 14

Early Thursday

THE TRIAL BY THE JEWS

Jesus is brought to Annas for questioning.
He is asked about his disciples and doctrine
At the palace of the high priest Caiaphas

MATTHEW

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26:57-58

MARK

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14:53-54

LUKE

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22:54

JOHN

18:12-14

18:19-24

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NISAN 14

Early Thursday

THE TRIAL BY THE JEWS

Jesus is brought to Annas for questioning.

He is asked about his disciples and doctrine

At the palace of the high priest Caiaphas

He is accused of plotting against the temple.

MATTHEW

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26:57-58

26:59-62

MARK

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14:53-54

14:55-60

LUKE

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22:54

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JOHN

18:12-14

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MATTHEW

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26:57-58

26:59-62

26:63-66

MARK

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14:53-54

14:55-60

14:61-64

LUKE

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22:54

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JOHN

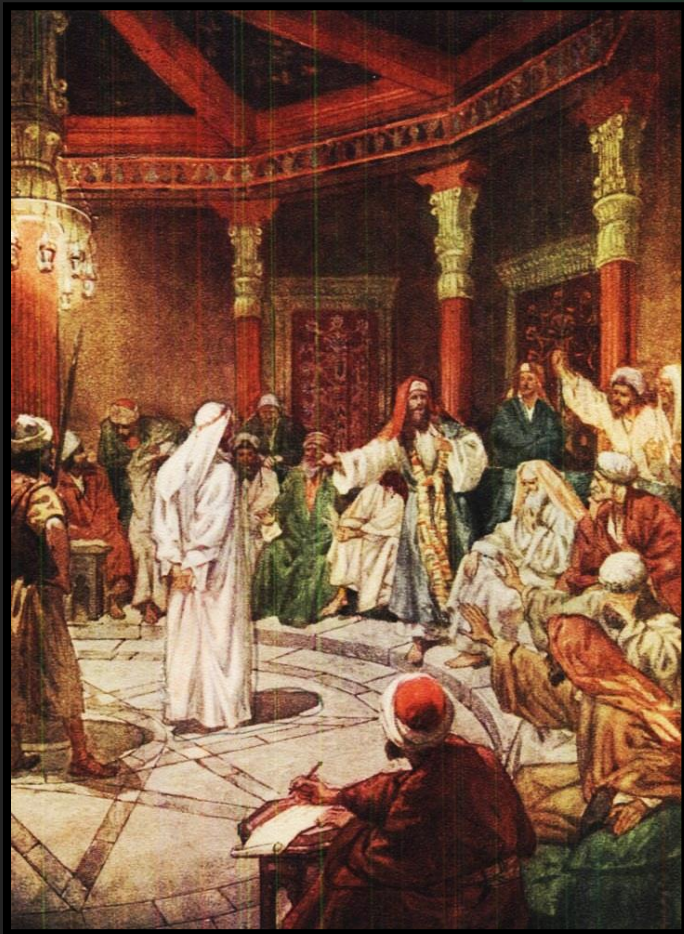
18:12-14

18:19-24

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Matthew 26:59-60a

⁵⁹ Now the chief priests, and elders, and all the council, sought false witness against Jesus, to put him to death;

⁶⁰ But found none:

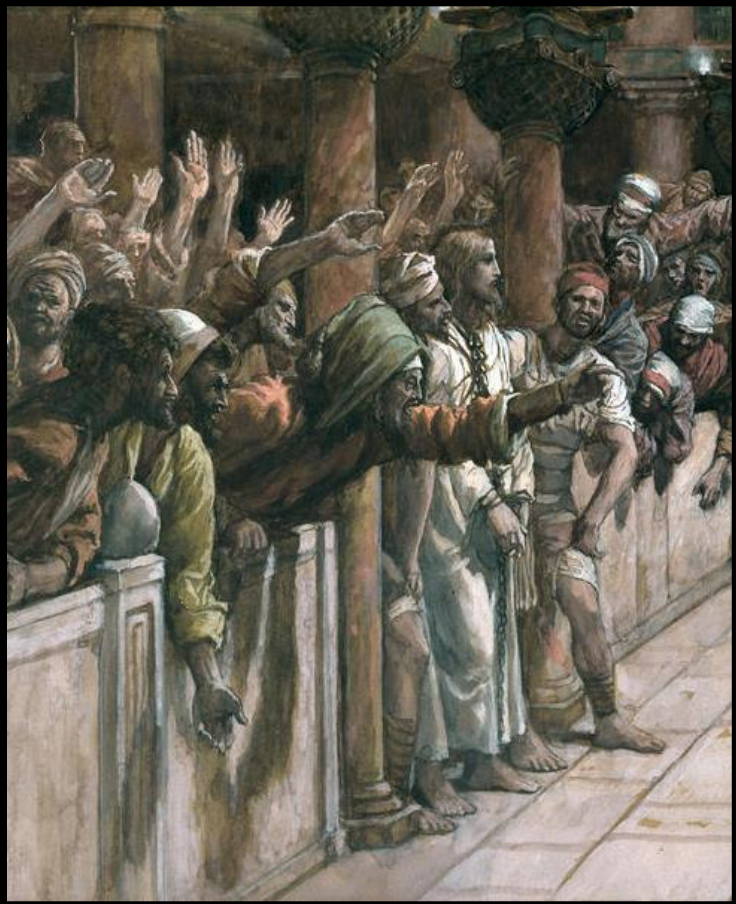
yea, though many false witnesses came, yet found they none ...



Before anyone could be condemned to die, the law of Moses required that there were at least two eyewitnesses whose testimony was in agreement concerning the crime.

Deuteronomy 17:6

At the mouth of two witnesses, or three witnesses, shall he that is worthy of death be put to death; *but* at the mouth of one witness he shall not be put to death.



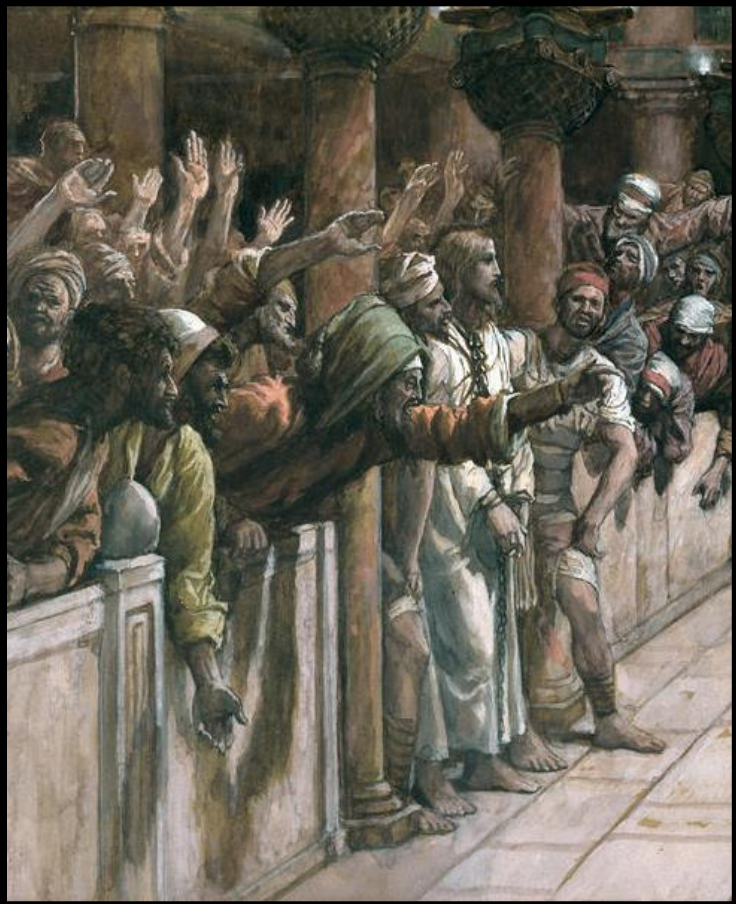
They finally found two who would both testify that Jesus plotted to destroy the temple:

Matthew 26:60b-61

⁶⁰ ...at the last came two false witnesses,

⁶¹ And said,

This *fellow* said, I am able to destroy the temple of God, and to build it in three days.



They finally found two who would both testify that Jesus plotted to destroy the temple.

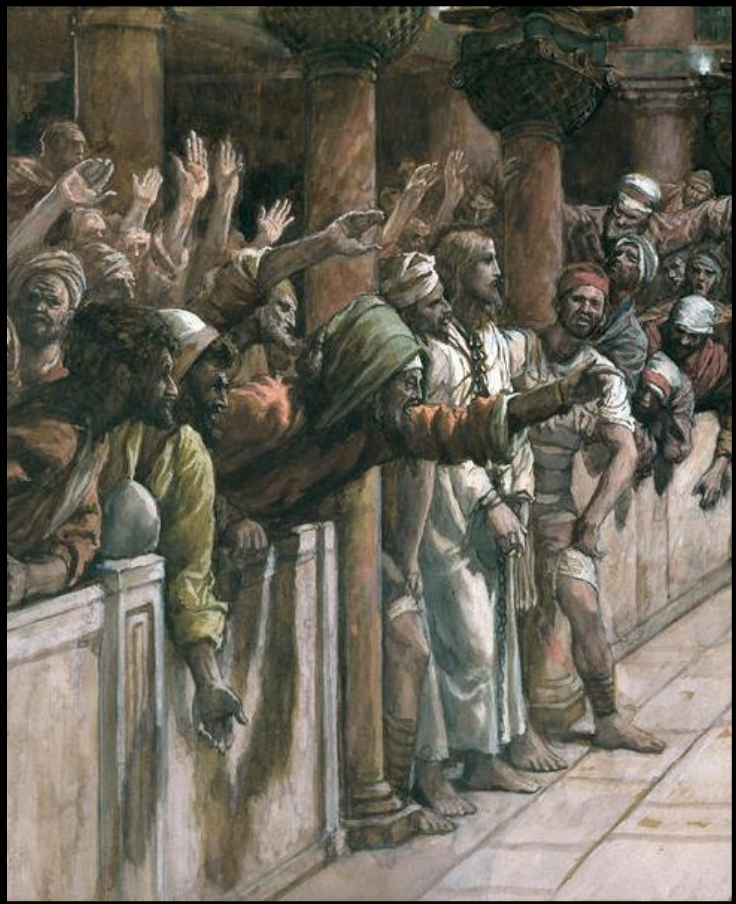
Matthew 26:60b-61

⁶⁰ ...at the last came two false witnesses,

⁶¹ And said,

This *fellow* said, I am able to destroy the temple of God, and to build it in three days.

They misrepresented the words Jesus spoke when he cleansed the temple.



They finally found two who would both testify that Jesus plotted to destroy the temple.

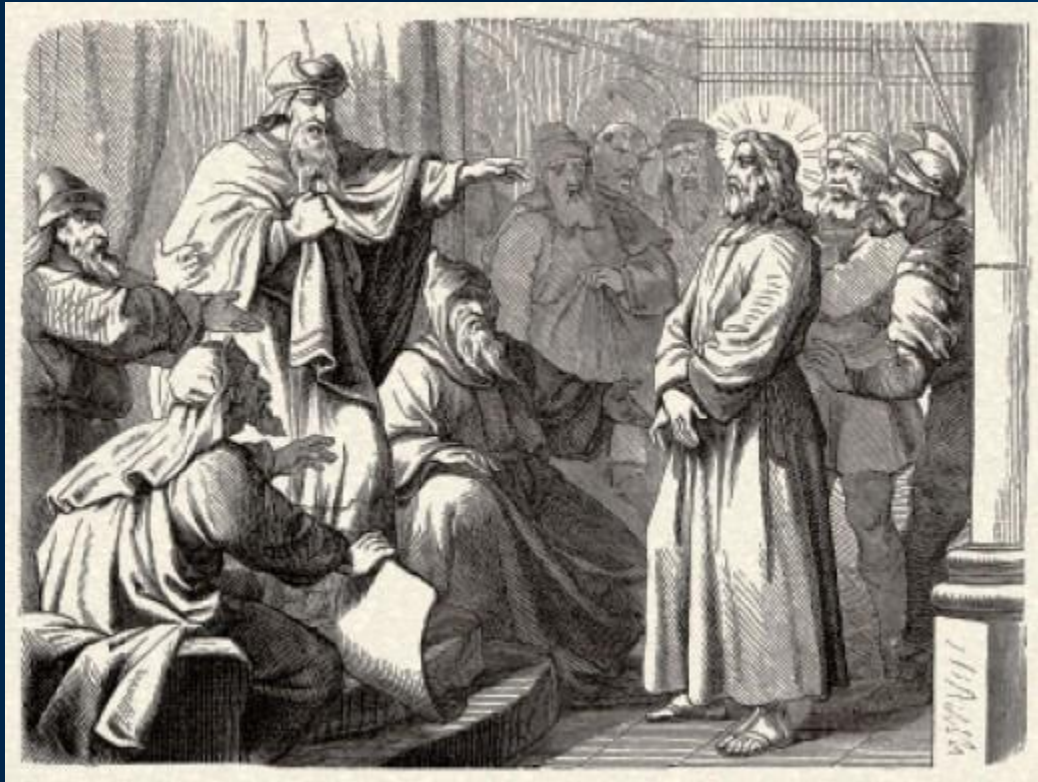
Matthew 26:60b-61

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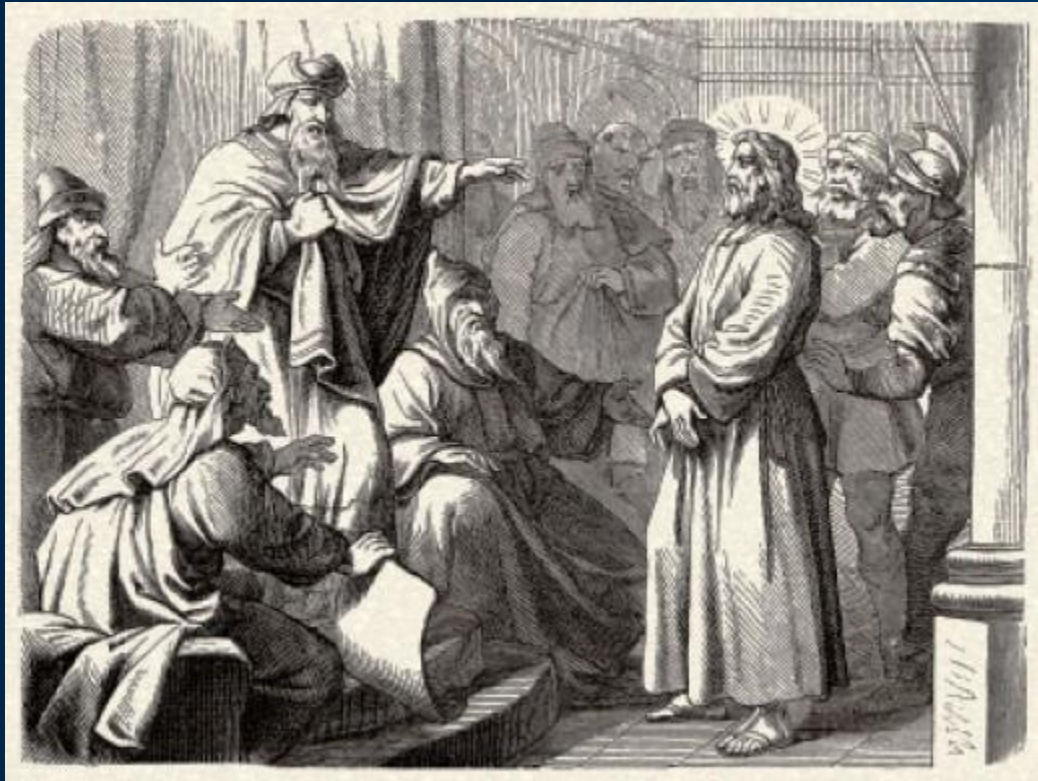
This *fellow* said, I am able to destroy the temple of God, and to build it in three days.

The testimony of these false witnesses was enough to convict Jesus of this crime.



Matthew 26:62-63a

- ⁶² And the high priest arose, and said unto him, Answerest thou nothing? what *is it which* these witness against thee?
- ⁶³ But Jesus held his peace ...



Matthew 26:63b

⁶³ ... And the high priest answered and said unto him, I adjure thee by the living God, that thou tell us whether thou be the Christ, the Son of God.



Matthew 26:63b

⁶³ ... And the high priest answered and said unto him, answered and said unto him,

I adjure thee by the living God, that thou tell us whether thou be the Christ, the Son of God.

Under Levitical law, these words forced the witness to answer completely and truthfully.

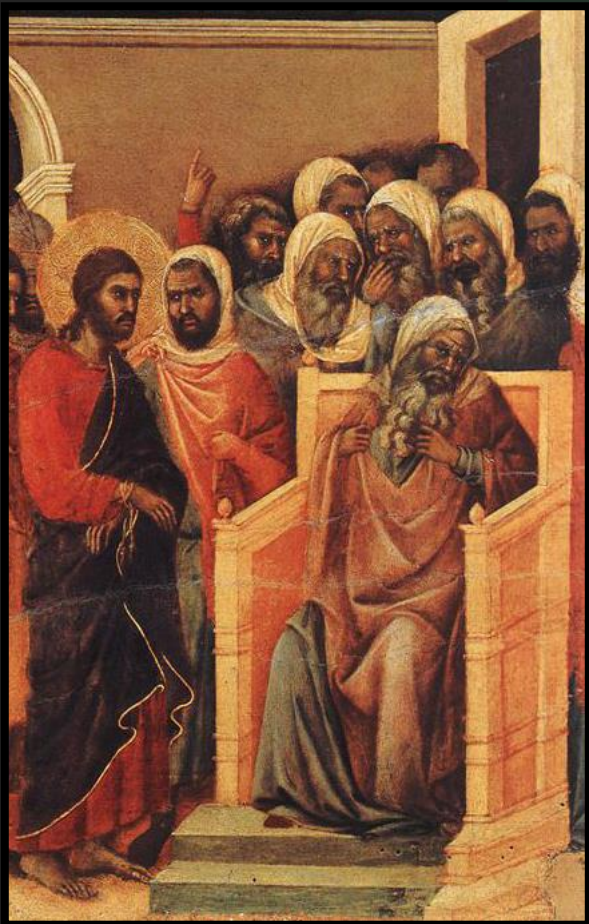


Matthew 26:64

⁶⁴ Jesus saith unto him,
Thou hast said:

Nevertheless I say unto you,

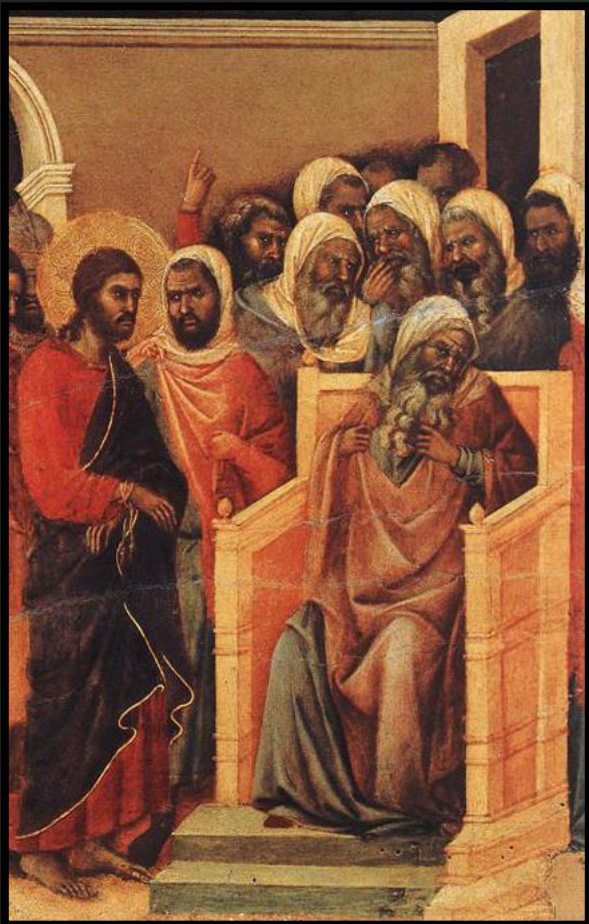
Hereafter shall ye see the Son
of man sitting on the right
hand of power, and coming in
the clouds of heaven.



Matthew 26:65-66

⁶⁵ Then the high priest rent his clothes, saying,
He hath spoken blasphemy;
what further need have we of witnesses?
behold, now ye have heard his blasphemy.
⁶⁶ What think ye?

They answered and said, He is guilty of death.



Matthew 26:65-66

⁶⁵ Then the high priest rent his clothes, saying,
He hath spoken blasphemy;
what further need have we of witnesses?
behold, now ye have heard his blasphemy.
⁶⁶ What think ye?

They answered and said, He is guilty of death.

Caiaphas decided Jesus was guilty of two crimes – plotting to destroy the temple, and blasphemy – and condemned him to die.

NISAN 14

Early Thursday

THE TRIAL BY THE JEWS

Jesus is brought to Annas for questioning.

He is asked about his disciples and doctrine

At the palace of the high priest Caiaphas

He is accused of plotting against the temple.

He is accused of blasphemy.

Jesus is tortured by the temple guards.

MATTHEW

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26:57-58

26:59-62

26:63-66

26:67-68

MARK

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14:53-54

14:55-60

14:61-64

14:65

LUKE

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22:54

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22:63-65

JOHN

18:12-14

18:19-24

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When Caiaphas was finished with his questions, Jesus was beaten and ridiculed by the temple guards.



Luke 22:63-65

⁶³ And the men that held Jesus mocked him, and smote *him*.

⁶⁴ And when they had blindfolded him, they struck him on the face, and asked him, saying, Prophecy, who is it that smote thee?

⁶⁵ And many other things blasphemously spake they against him.

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Peter's Denials

MATTHEW

MARK

LUKE

JOHN

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18:12-14

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18:19-24

26:57-58

14:53-54

22:54

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26:59-62

14:55-60

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26:63-66

14:61-64

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26:67-68

14:65

22:63-65

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26:69-75

14:66-72

22:55-62

18:15-18

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18:25-27



While all this was going on, Peter was outside the high priest's house, no doubt afraid and wondering what he should do.



The First Denial

Luke 22:55-57

- ⁵⁵ And when they had kindled a fire in the midst of the hall, and were set down together, Peter sat down among them.
- ⁵⁶ But a certain maid beheld him as he sat by the fire, and earnestly looked upon him, and said,
This man was also with him.
- ⁵⁷ And he denied him, saying,
Woman, I know him not.



The Second Denial

Luke 22:58

And after a little while another saw him, and said, Thou art also of them. And Peter said, Man, I am not.



The Third Denial

Luke 22:59-60

⁵⁹ And about the space of one hour after another confidently affirmed, saying, Of a truth this *fellow* also was with him: for he is a Galilaean.

⁶⁰ And Peter said, Man, I know not what thou sayest.

And immediately, while he yet spake, the cock crew.



Luke 22:61

And the Lord turned,
and looked upon Peter.

And Peter remembered the word of the
Lord, how he had said unto him,
Before the cock crow,
thou shalt deny me thrice.



Luke 22:62
And Peter went out,
and wept bitterly.



Christ's trial by the high priest Caiaphas, followed by the beatings by the temple soldiers, lasted until early dawn.

At daybreak, Jesus was taken before the Sanhedrin council.



Luke 22:66-69

⁶⁶ And as soon as it was day, the elders of the people and the chief priests and the scribes came together, and led him into their council, saying,

⁶⁷ Art thou the Christ? tell us.

And he said unto them, If I tell you, ye will not believe:

⁶⁸ And if I also ask you, ye will not answer me, nor let me go.

⁶⁹ Hereafter shall the Son of man sit on the right hand of the power of God.



Luke 22:70-71

⁷⁰ Then said they all,
Art thou then the Son of God?

And he said unto them,
Ye say that I am.

⁷¹ And they said,
What need we any further witness?
for we ourselves have heard of his own
mouth.



Luke 22:70-71

⁷⁰ Then said they all,
Art thou then the Son of God?
And he said unto them,
Ye say that I am.

The Jews knew to say you were the Son of God was to say you were *equal* to God.

John 5:18

¹⁸ Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill him, because he not only had broken the sabbath, but said also that God was his Father, making himself equal with God.



Luke 22:70-71

⁷⁰ Then said they all,
Art thou then the Son of God?
And he said unto them,
Ye say that I am.

In the case of Jesus, this was completely true.

“Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God”
(Phil. 2:6)





But to the unbelieving Jews, this was the height of blasphemy. They completed their trial, and now they needed Rome to carry out their death sentence.

Matthew 27:2

² And when they had bound him, they led *him* away, and delivered him to Pontius Pilate the governor.



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- 9pm – 11pm Communion, Jesus washes the apostles’ feet, John 14 teachings
- 11pm – 12am The walk to the Mount of Olives, teachings from John 15 and 16
- 12am – 1am Prayers in the garden of Gethsemane, John 17
- 1am – 2am Betrayal by Judas and Christ’s arrest
- 2am – 4:30am Christ’s trial by the Jews
- 4:30am Jesus is taken to Pontius Pilate



UP NEXT:
The Trial by Rome

What did you learn?

1. Who was Jesus first taken to see after he was arrested in the garden of Gethsemane?

John 18:12-13a

- ¹² Then the band and the captain and officers of the Jews took Jesus, and bound him,
- ¹³ And led him away to Annas first...

What did you learn?

2. What was this man's relationship to Caiaphas?

John 18:13b

¹³ ... he was father in law to Caiaphas, which was the high priest that same year.

What did you learn?

3. What two things did Annas ask Jesus about?

John 18:19

¹⁹ The high priest then asked Jesus of his disciples, and of his doctrine.

What did you learn?

4. Where was Jesus brought to next?

John 18:24

²⁴ Now Annas had sent him bound unto Caiaphas the high priest.

What did you learn?

5. What was the first accusation made against Jesus?

Matthew 26:61

⁶¹ ... This fellow said, I am able to destroy the temple of God, and to build it in three days.

What did you learn?

6. In Jewish law, what was necessary in order to put a man to death?

Deuteronomy 17:6

⁶ At the mouth of two witnesses, or three witnesses, shall he that is worthy of death be put to death; *but* at the mouth of one witness he shall not be put to death.

What did you learn?

7. What was the second accusation made against Jesus?

Matthew 26:65

⁶⁵ ... He hath spoken blasphemy

What did you learn?

8. After Caiaphas finished his questions, what happened to Jesus?

Luke 22:63

⁶³ And the men that held Jesus mocked him, and smote *him*.

What did you learn?

9. How many times did Peter deny Jesus?

Luke 22:61

⁶¹ And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said unto him, Before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice.

What did you learn?

10. After the guards were finished with him, where was Jesus taken next?

To face the Jewish Council, the Sanhedrin.

Luke 22:66

⁶⁶ And as soon as it was day, the elders of the people and the chief priests and the scribes came together, and led him into their council, saying,



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