

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE CLASS

APRIL 28, 2021

MATTHEW 26.57-67

### INTRODUCTION:

1. In the garden of Gethsemane, Jesus was there. (John 8.59; 11.53,54; 18.4-8)
  - a) Jesus cared about His disciples. (John 18.8)
  - b) Jesus cared about His enemies. (Luke 22.51)
  - c) Jesus cared about the word of God. (Matt. 26.52-54)
2. The Jews had their own law system which was governed by the Sanhedrin.
  - a) The Sanhedrin was the Jewish high supreme court made up of the high priest, chief priests, elders scribes, Pharisees, and Sadducees. (Matt. 26.47)
  - b) The Sanhedrin judged all matter civil and religious. (John 18.31)
3. Having been arrested, Jesus is now brought before the Sanhedrin to stand trial.

### I. THE COURT

- A. Jesus first appears before Annas
  1. **JOHN 18.12-14:** *“And they led Him away to Annas first”*
  2. Caiaphas and Annas were both high priests. (Luke 3.2)
  3. Annas questioned Jesus “about His disciples and His doctrine” (John 18.19)
  4. Jesus responded to his questions. (John 18.20-23; cf. Luke 4.16; Matt. 21.23.24)
- B. Jesus was then sent to Caiaphas.
  1. **JOHN 18.24:** *“Then Annas sent Him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.”*
  2. **MATTHEW 26.57:** *“And those who had laid hold of Jesus led Him away to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders were assembled.”*
  3. This was the same Sanhedrin who questioned Peter and John. (Acts 4.5-7)
  4. Caiaphas prophesied about the death of Jesus. (John 11.49-52)

### II. THE TRIAL

- A. There were false witnesses.
  1. **MATTHEW 26.59:** *“Now the chief priests, the elders, and all the council sought false testimony against Jesus to put Him to death.”*
    - a) Luke tells us that this happened *“as soon as it was day”* (Luke 22.66; cf. v. 61)
    - b) For them to carry out the death penalty, they required witnesses. (Deut. 17.6)
  2. **MATTHEW 26.60:** *“but found none. Even though many false witnesses came forward, they found none.”* What was the problem with the false witnesses? (Mark 14.55.56)
  3. **MATTHEW 26.60:** *“But as last two false witnesses came forward”*
    - a) **MATTHEW 26.61:** *“This fellow said, ‘I am able to destroy the temple of God and the build it in three days.’”* (cf. John 2.19-22)
    - b) **MARK 14.59:** *“But not even then did their testimony agree.”*
- B. Jesus is then called to the stand.
  1. **MATTHEW 26.62,63:** *“Tell us if You are the Christ, the Son of God!”*
  2. Jesus agreed that He was the Christ, the Son of God. (Matt. 26.64)
  3. Jesus predicted His coming day of judgment. (cf. Rev. 1.7)
  4. Their reaction: They *“spat in His face and beat Him”* (Matt. 26.65-68)