

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Jesus before the Sanhedrin

⁵⁷Those who had arrested Jesus brought him to the house of the High Priest Caiaphas, where the teachers of the Law and the Jewish authorities were assembled.

⁵⁸Peter followed him at a distance as far as the courtyard of the High Priest; he entered and sat with the guards, waiting to see the end. ⁵⁹The chief priests and the whole Supreme Council needed some false evidence against Jesus, so that they might put him to death. ⁶⁰But they were unable to find any, even though false witnesses came forward. ⁶¹At last, two men came up and declared, 'This man said: I am able to destroy the temple of God and rebuild it in three days.'

⁶²The High Priest then stood up and asked Jesus:

—Have you no answer at all? What is this evidence against you?

⁶³But Jesus kept silent.

So the High Priest said to him:

—In the name of the living God, I command you to tell us: Are you the Messiah, the Son of God?

⁶⁴Jesus answered:

—It is just as you say. I tell you more: from now on, you will see *the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Most Powerful God and coming on the clouds of heaven.*

⁶⁵Then the High Priest tore his clothes, saying:

—He has blasphemed. What more evidence do we need? You have just heard these blasphemous words. ⁶⁶What is your decision?

They answered:

—He must die!

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