

Christ Accused, Cross-Examined, Denied

SCS Elementary Chapel March 4th, 2025
Mark 14:53-72

Christ Accused (Mark 14:53-59)

The Lord Jesus Christ was arrested in Gethsemane.

He was taken to the High Priest's. Both Annas and Caiaphas dealt with Jesus. Before the Sanhedrin (Jewish religious rulers), **Jesus was accused of many things (53, 55-56).**

Some tried to *twist* Jesus' words (57-59; John 2). Even today, people twist Jesus' words to make Him less than He said He was.

The leaders wanted an excuse to have Jesus put to death (55). They knew they wanted Jesus dead. They wanted to look good, so they needed a reason to kill the Lord of glory.

Christ Cross-Examined (Mark 14:60-65)

Legally, the high priest was not supposed to make someone on trial testify against themselves.

The high priest broke the law when he asked Jesus to testify. Jesus had “a right to remain silent.” He used this right (60-61). This fulfilled OT prophecy (Isaiah 52-53).

The high priest asked “**Are You the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?**” (61). Jesus answered “**I am.**” He also promised to fulfill Daniel’s prophecy to sit on the right hand of power and return (62).

The high priest and Sanhedrin agreed this was blasphemy (63-64). They spat on Jesus and beat Him (65). Wicked men had “reason” to kill the Lord of Glory.

Christ Denied (Mark 14:66-72)

Most of Jesus' disciples abandoned Him in Gethsemane. They ran away to save themselves.

Peter, however, stuck around. He also went to the high priest's (54). He warmed himself by the fire.

Peter wanted to please Jesus' enemies. He was afraid to be associated with Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory!

A servant girl got Peter the disciple to deny his Lord (66-68).

She then identified Peter to others, so Peter denied Jesus to others too (69-70). Finally, Peter cursed and swore that he did not know Jesus (70-71).