



## Condemned, but not the End!

March 15, 2026

Mark 14:53-65

### Introduction:

How is Jesus bringing hope into your current situation?

### Jesus and Peter (Mark 14:53-54):

“And they led Jesus to the high priest. And all the chief priests and the elders and the scribes came together. And Peter had followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest. And he was sitting with the guards and warming himself at the fire.”

- A Markan sandwich - The record of Peter’s denial of Jesus, sandwiched between the testimony of Jesus in NOT denying His identity. (See Mark 14:66-72)
- John 18:13, Jesus was first taken to Annas, then the current high priest, Caiaphas.

### Jesus before the Sanhedrin (Mark 14:53-61):

“Now the chief priests and the whole council were seeking testimony against Jesus to put him to death, but they found none. For many bore false witness against him, but their testimony did not agree. And some stood up and bore false witness against him, saying, ‘We heard him say, “I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands.” Yet even about this their testimony did not agree. And the high priest stood up in the midst and asked Jesus, “Have you no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against you?” But he remained silent and made no answer. Again the high priest asked him, “Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?”

- (V53) The Jewish council is seeking to put together a case against Jesus so that the Romans would see him worthy of crucifixion. This is a **CONSPIRACY**. They don’t want the truth, they have already decided he is guilty!
- They’ve already reached the conclusion that Jesus isn’t who he says he is. **We ALL have to decide WHO JESUS IS.** *Are we going to trust He is who He says he is or are we going to come up with our own idea of who he is?*
- Yet, they don’t have much to stand on, and they go back to a statement Jesus made early on in his ministry. (John 2:19)
- The high priest, sensing the witnesses aren’t getting them anywhere, begins to directly question Jesus, yet Jesus initially remains silent. (Isaiah 53:7)



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## Jesus Testifies to His True Identity (Mark 14:62-65)

And Jesus said, “I am, and you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven”. And the high priest tore his garments and said, “What further witnesses do we need? You have heard his blasphemy. What is your decision?” And they all condemned him as deserving death. And some began to spit on him and to cover his face and to strike him, saying to him, “Prophecy!” And the guards received him with blows.

- Matthew 26:63 tells us that Jesus was, in this moment, put under oath.
- His declaration in response to the question about his identity outlines (4) aspects of His identity and purpose:
- As the guards mock Him “prophecy”, prophecy is being fulfilled (Mark 10:33-34)

### Jesus Declaration:

1. **“I AM”** - Jesus is directly claiming to be God (Exodus 3:14, Isaiah 43:10)

Jesus, as God, was not created, and will have no end. He is from “everlasting to everlasting” (Psalm 90:2)

2. **“The Son of Man”** - Jesus is claiming to be the anointed one of God, the Messiah, who will reign forever. His Kingdom is not defined by political alliances or geographical boundaries. (Daniel 7:13-14)

Jesus’ kingdom has no end, and we, as born again followers of Jesus are part of that kingdom. Seek first this kingdom (Mt. 6:33)

3. **“Seated at the right hand of Power”** - the right hand was a position of privilege, honor and authority. Eph. 1-2 says that Christ is seated far above every other authority and that we are seated WITH HIM. (Eph. 1:20, 2:6)

You can trust that Jesus has all authority, that he is interceding for us, and that because of His position, **we share in His authority.**

4. **“Coming with the clouds of heaven”** - Jesus is declaring that He will be coming back, and exercising full authority and power. (See Revelation 1:7, Matthew 24:30)

You can trust that Jesus is coming back and will judge all evil and sin with perfect judgement. All of us will give an account of our lives (1 Cor. 3:11-15, 2 Cor. 5:10). Those who have trusted in Jesus will be eternally in God’ presence.

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