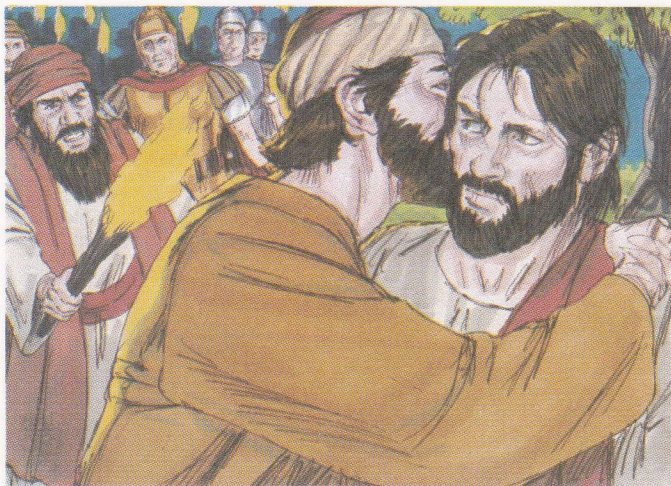


# Jesus Before the Sanhedrin



**1** After Jesus was arrested in Gethsemane, he was taken to the high priests. All the chief priests and scribes had assembled. This was the Sanhedrin, the Jewish court.



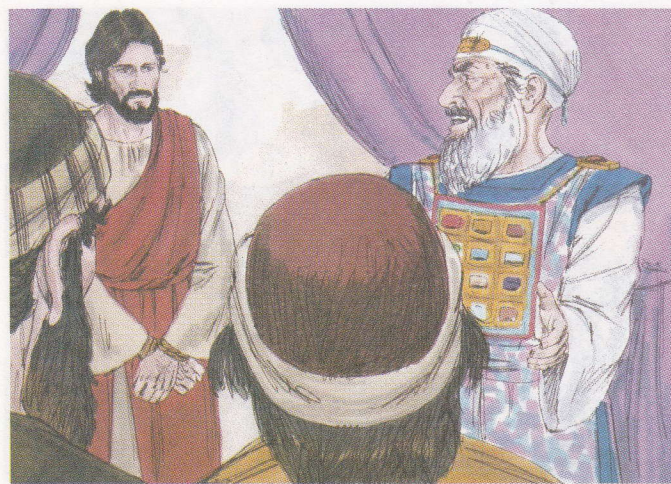
**2** Peter followed at a distance. He came right into the courtyard of the high priest. He warmed himself at the fire where the guards were sitting.



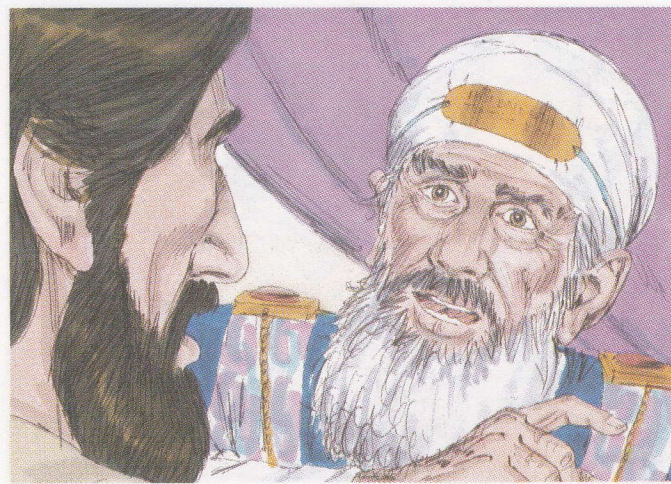
**3** The counsel wanted to find witnesses who would testify against Jesus so that they could put him to death. But the witnesses' testimony did not agree.



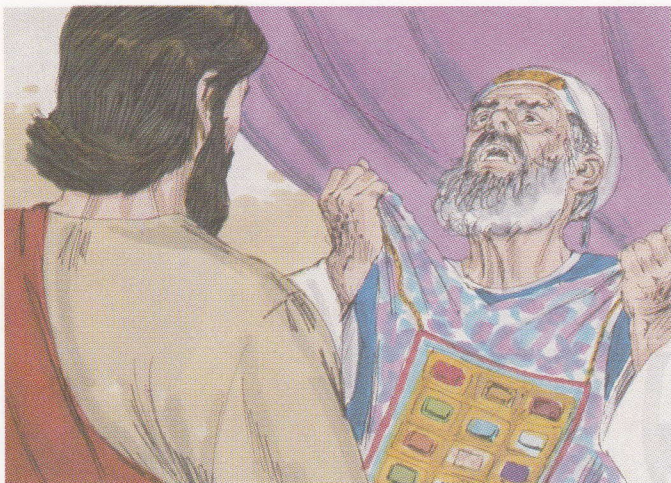
**4** Finally two stood up and spoke against Jesus. "We heard him say, 'I will destroy this temple made with hands and in three days I will build another not made with hands.'"



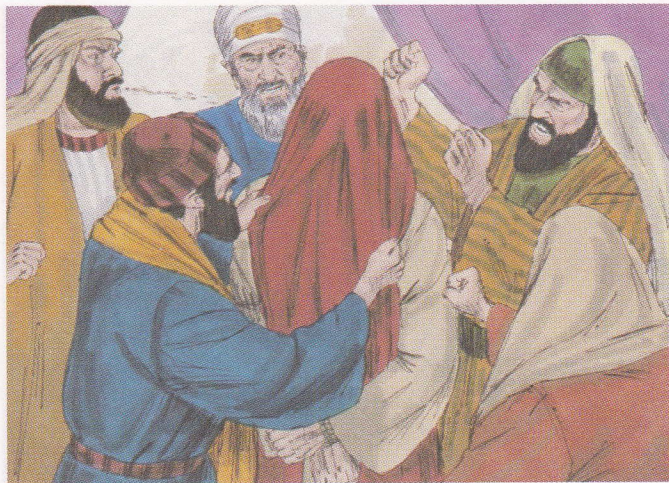
**5** The high priest stood up and asked Jesus, "Have you no answer? What is it that these men testify against you?" But Jesus remained silent, giving no answer.



**6** The high priest asked, "Are you the Christ, the Son of God?" Jesus said, "I am, and you will see the Son of man sitting at the right hand of God, and coming with the clouds of heaven."



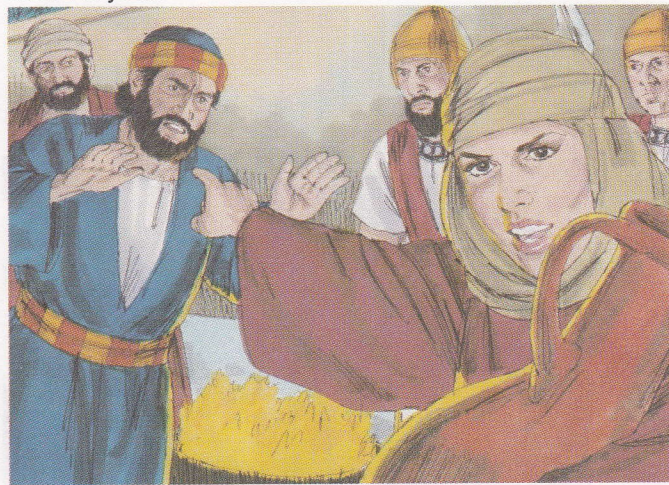
**7** The high priest tore his garment and said, "Why do we need other witnesses? You have heard his blasphemy! What is your decision?"



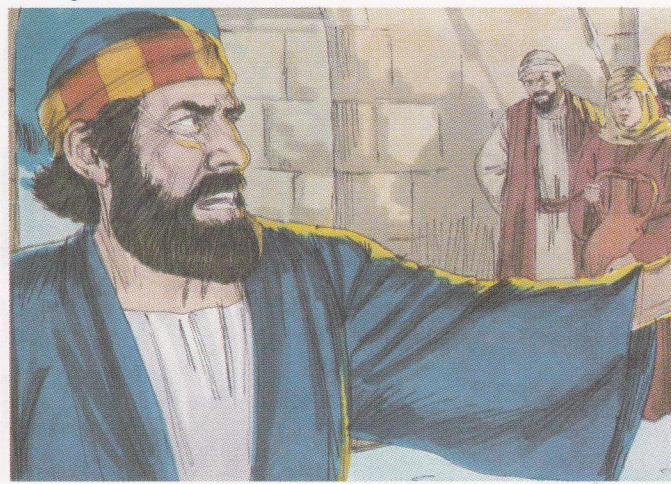
**8** They all condemned Jesus as deserving death. Some began to spit on him. Others covered his face and struck him and said, "Prophecy to us, you Christ. Who hit you?"



**9** One of the maids of the high priest came into the courtyard. When she saw Peter, she said, "You were with Jesus." Peter said, "I don't know what you are talking about."



**10** Then he went to the gateway and the maid saw him again and began to tell bystanders, "This man is one of them." But again Peter denied it.



**11** A little later, some bystanders said to Peter, "You must be one of them, for you are a Galilean." Peter began to curse and swear, "I don't know this man of whom you speak."



**12** Just then the cock crowed a second time. Suddenly Peter remembered what Jesus had said. And he broke down and cried.