

MARK 14 vs 53

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Mark told us about events at the Passover meal, the breaking of bread, and the cups of blessing drinking **the fruit of the vine**, and how when Messiah is risen, they will again drink **of the fruit of the vine**. Professor Edersheim of Oxford University says, This was a joyous time of reward and fellowship. But this year, Jesus told them, one of them would betray Him. And Mark just wrote that all who were in the upper room, who went with Jesus to Gethsemane, when Judas and the mob came, they all fled.



53 And they led Jesus away to the high priest: and with him were assembled all the chief priests and the elders and the scribes / and this ad hoc Sanhedrin wasn't assembled for a party... well, it was for a lynching party; but I don't think that counts.

54 And Peter followed Him afar off, even into the courtyard of the high priest: and he sat with the servants, and warmed himself at the fire / why did he do that?



55 And the chief priests and all the council sought for a witness against Jesus / that is a false witness against Him.

to put him to death; and found none / what a surprise!

56 For many gave false witness against Him, but their testimony did not agree / it was not consistent; things don't change much, do they?

57 And there arose certain / a certain what? I guess we can fill in the blank. Did Mark want to cuss? a certain ____ and bare false witness against him,

saying,

58 We heard him say, I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and within three days I will build another made without hands / or something like that!

59 But none of their testimonies agreed with the other.

60 And the high priest stood up in the midst, and finally asked Jesus, saying, Do You have no answer? what is it that these witness against you / even the high priest was frustrated with all these inconsistent witnesses, and it seems he couldn't figure out all their lunacy; and He says to Jesus, aren't you going to object?.

61 But He kept silent, and answered nothing.

Again the high priest asked Him, and said to Him, Are you **the Christ** / are you **the Messiah**, the Son of the Blessed?

⁶² **And Jesus said, I am** / so, Jesus answered the way the Lord, the Holy One of Israel would answer:

I am, and you will see the Son of Man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven / in other words: you will see Daniel's prophecies be fulfilled in Me.

⁶³ **Then the high priest rent his clothes, and said, What further witnesses do we need?** / the high priest was never to rend his clothes; but where there is no leadership, there is usually lots of drama.

And the high priest said... speaking to the council that gathered...

⁶⁴ **You have heard the blasphemy: what do you think?** / and consider these 2 relevant points from the Talmud: it is interesting to note... that voting always began with the younger; always... that the juniors might not be influenced by the seniors. Also, an individual may be pronounced: **not guilty**... on the same day of a trial; **but never: guilty**... on the same day. **Never!**

So what do we read?

And they all condemned Him to be guilty of death.

⁶⁵ **And some began to spit on Him, and to cover His face, and to buffet Him** / these are religious leaders; they started to pound on Him,

and mockingly said to Him, Prophecy!

(**and the slaves beat Him with the palms of their hands**) / they too, were slapping Jesus around; undoubtedly, thinking they are funny. And this still goes on every day **in the persecuted church** in the lives of men and women, young and old who represent Jesus... today.

⁶⁶ **And as Peter was below in the courtyard, there came one of the servant-girls of the high priest:**

⁶⁷ **And when she saw Peter warming himself, she carefully looked at him, and said, you also were with Jesus of Nazareth.**

⁶⁸ **But he denied**, saying, I know **not**, and do **not** understand what you say. And he went out onto the porch; and the cock crowed.

⁶⁹ **And a servant-girl again saw him, and began to say to the bystanders, This is one of them.**

⁷⁰ **And he denied it again.**

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And a short time later, those who stood by again said to Peter, Surely you are one of them: for you are a Galilean, and your speech gives it away.

⁷¹ **But he began to curse and to swear,**

saying, I do **not** know this man you are talking about.

⁷² And immediately the cock crowed a second time. And Peter remembered the word Jesus said to him,

Before the cock crows twice, you will deny Me three times.

And when he considered it, he wept.

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