

You Heard His Blasphemy

Mark 14:53-72

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Jesus was led off to the house of Caiaphas, the high priest. Peter followed at a distance and went right into the courtyard of the house.

The religious leaders came together in an assembly known as the Sanhedrin. They were looking for evidence that would allow them to execute Jesus. Many testified, but their statements didn't agree.

Jesus remained silent through it all until Caiaphas asked, "Are you the Messiah, the Son of God?"

Jesus answered, "I am. And you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Almighty."

The high priest tore his robe and asked, "Why do we need any more evidence? You heard his blasphemy. What's your verdict?"

They all agreed he deserved to die. Some of them began to spit at him. They put a blindfold on him and beat him, saying, "Tell us, Prophet, who hit you that time?"

In the courtyard, a servant girl saw Peter sitting by the fire. She looked at him intently and said, "You were with Jesus."

Peter denied it, "I don't know what you're talking about!" He went out into the entryway just as a rooster crowed.

The servant girl told some bystanders, "He's one of them." Again he denied it.

A while later, someone else said to Peter, "You must be one of them, you're from Galilee."

Peter began to curse and swear, "I don't know this man you're talking about!" And just then the rooster crowed for the second time. Peter remembered what Jesus had said. "Before the rooster crows twice today, you will deny three times that you even know me."

Peter burst into tears.