

**256 Jesus is Brought before the Sanhedrin**  
**Mt. 26:57-68, Mk. 14:53-65, Lk. 22:54-55, 53-71, Jn. 18:13-24**

They brought Christ before Caiaphas, that year's high priest,  
Who'd said the ministry of Christ must be surceased.

The chief priests, scribes and elders were assembled there,  
While Peter was outside, as close as he could bare.

With him was a disciple by the high priest known,  
Who had the way into the courtyard to them shown.

Now chief priests and the gathered council sought  
Incriminating things that Jesus taught.

They first hoped damning evidence He'd volunteer.  
"What I have taught I have pronounced for all to hear,

In synagogues and Temple, where all meet.  
My words were not in secret or discreet.

Ask those who heard My words to make your case."  
At this, one guard slapped Jesus in the face.

"Is that the way You answer the high priest?!"  
"If I offended, even in the least,

Bear witness to whatever wrong I said.  
If not, why should you strike Me in the head?"



Though many came to lie and were insistent,  
They had no case as lies were inconsistent.

Some said, "He claimed He'd tear the Temple to the ground  
And in three days, just as it was, He'd have it found."

Yet, still, what they gave witness to did not agree.  
The high priest questioned, "Have You no defense for me?"

Will You not protest such an accusation?!"  
His silence gave the high priest such frustration,

"On oath before the living God I'll have you swear!  
If You're the Christ, the Son of God, then so declare!"

Christ said, "It's you who have said this of Me.  
But I tell you from this time you shall see

The Son of Man at the right hand of Power,  
On heaven's clouds come in the coming hour."



The high priest tore his robes in outrage and disgust.  
"Convict this man of blasphemy we surely must!

Our witnesses need give no further word,  
For what He has blasphemed we now have heard!

Shall He utter another from His breath?!"  
The council answered, "No, He merits death!"

His face was covered, spat upon, punched in the eye,<sup>227</sup>  
And all the time they taunted Him to prophesy,

"Who struck You, Christ?! Tell us what You must know!  
Who is it that dealt You the latest blow?!"