

2019-2020 Bible Study

#32

5/12/20

Matthew 26

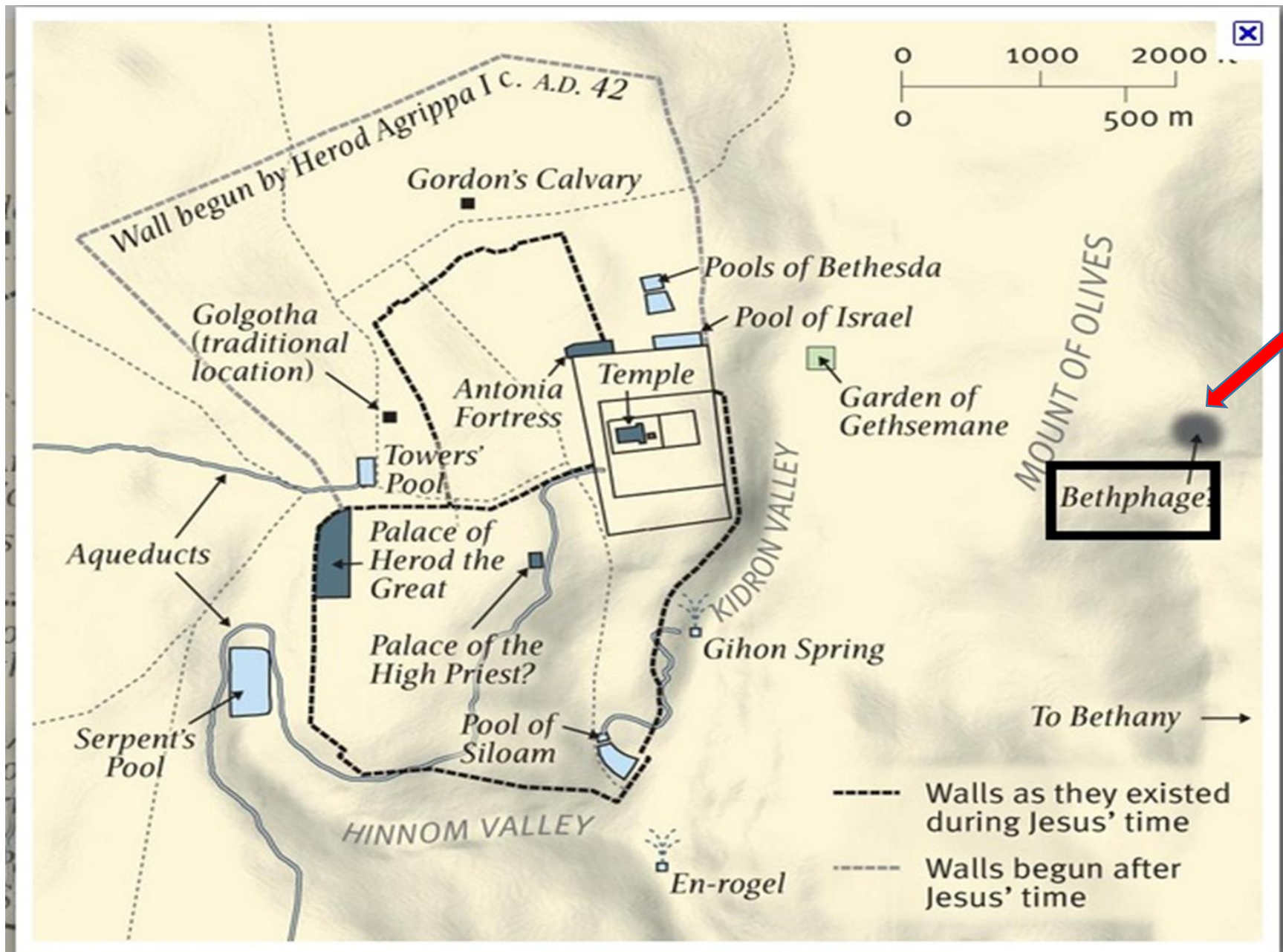
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Outline for Matthew 26

- **Matthew 26**
- The Conspiracy to Kill Jesus
- The Anointing at Bethany
- Judas Agrees to Betray Jesus
- The Passover with the Disciples
- The Institution of the Last Supper
- Peter's Denial Foretold
- Jesus Prays in Gethsemane
- The Betrayal and Arrest of Jesus
- Jesus before the High Priest
- Peter Denies Jesus

Matthew 26

- **Matthew 26:1-5** *“When Jesus had finished all these sayings,... the son of man will be delivered up, to be crucified...lest be a tumult among the people”*
 - Father pointed out that this was the **fifth time** Jesus had referred to His coming death
 - Further, it was now the time of the Passover (the only one discussed in the synoptic gospels)
 - Jesus had entered Jerusalem among the crowds coming for the Passover (required in **Exodus 23** and **Deuteronomy 16**) which doubled or tripled the population of the city (Some have even suggested that it could be as high as 10 times more) *





Bible Atlas (bibleatlas.org)

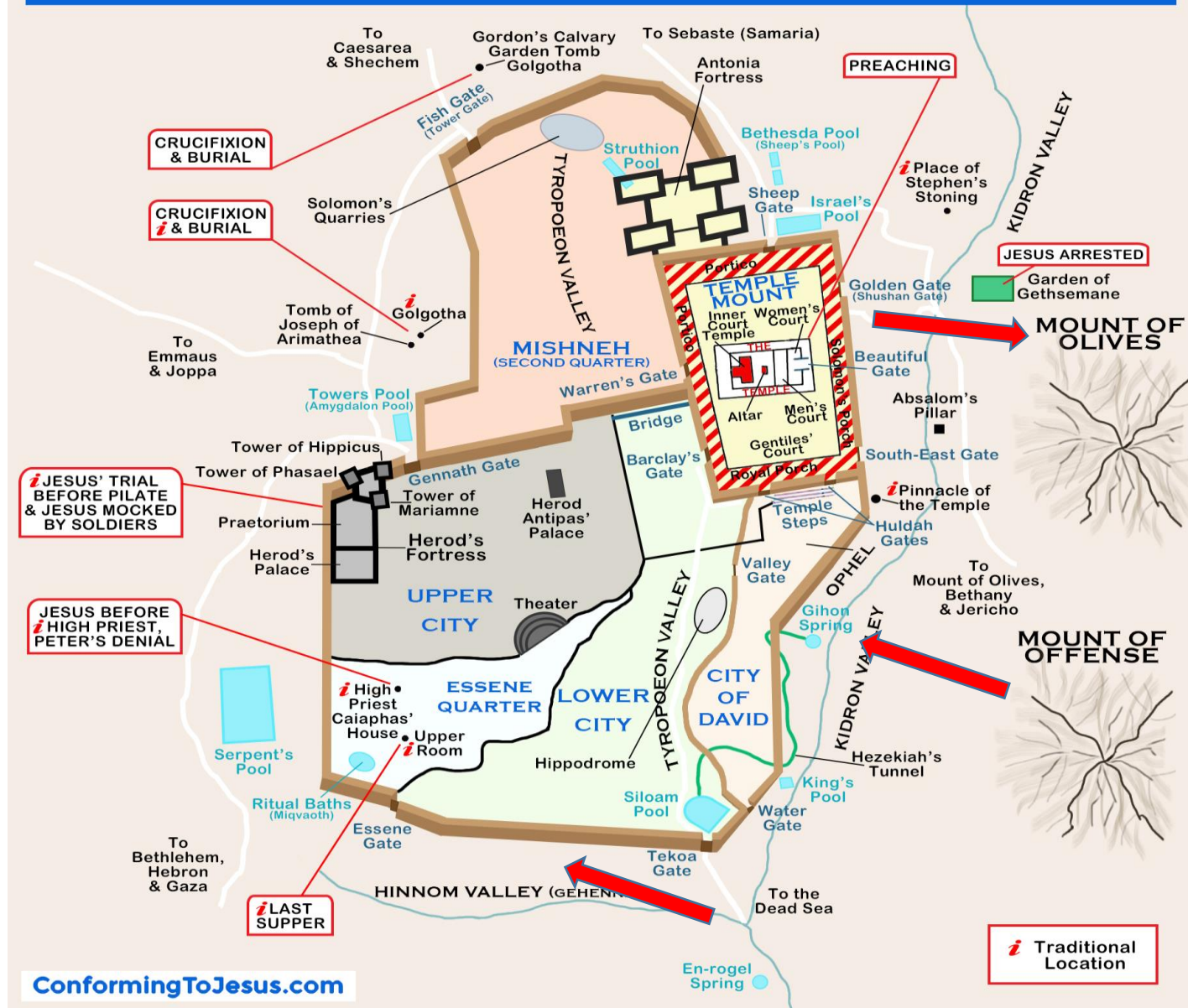


The New Moody Atlas of the Bible, By Barry J. Beitzel
Moody Publishers, Chicago IL

Matthew 26 (Cont)

- **Matthew 26:6-7** *“Now when Jesus was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper,...as he sat at table”*
 - Father discussed the importance of understanding the geography in and around Jerusalem
 - Valleys of Kidron and Gehenna (Hinnom)
 - Mount of Olives
 - Bethany
 - The house of Mary, Martha, and Lazarus was also called the house of Simon the leper (who might have been a relative)
 - The woman who poured ointment on Jesus was Mary, the sister of Martha
 - There is debate among scholars as to whether this Mary was the same person as Mary Magdalene *

JERUSALEM IN THE TIME OF JESUS



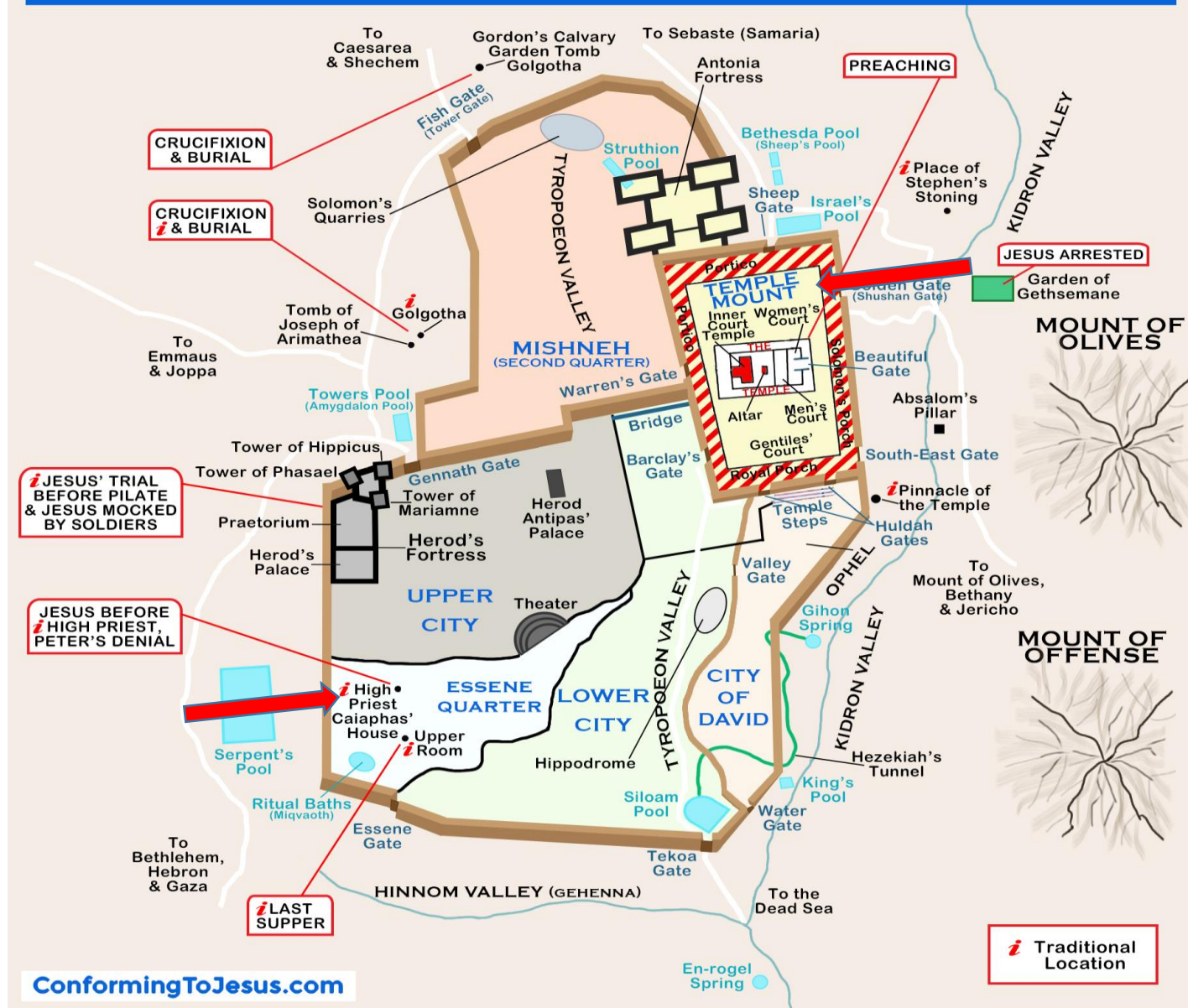
Matthew 26 (Cont)

- **Matthew 26:8-15** *“But when the disciples saw it,...And they paid him thirty pieces of silver”*
 - Father pointed out that we know from John’s gospel that it was Judas who asked these questions
 - Thirty pieces of silver was the amount of money discussed in **Exodus 21:32** and in **Zechariah 11:12** as the sum of money paid for a slave
 - This was designed to contrast the generosity of this woman
 - Again, Matthew is assuming that we know this fact *

Matthew 26 (Cont)

- **Matthew 25:16-19** *“And from that moment he sought an opportunity to betray him...and they prepared the Passover”*
 - Jerusalem was a large pie-shaped city with different sections and gates
 - The temple sat on the Temple Mount on the east side of the city facing the Mount of Olives
 - One of the sections of the city was called the Essene Quarter

JERUSALEM IN THE TIME OF JESUS



Matthew 26 (Cont)

- Essene (*mikvah* in Hebrew) meant “a bath,” in which certain Jewish ritual purifications were performed
- We know this because the upper room, where Jesus celebrated the Last Supper with his disciples, was located *

Matthew 26 (Cont)

- **Matthew 26:20-25** *“When it was evening,... You have said so”*
 - Father pointed out that this story in the synoptic gospels is a bit vague, while John gives many more details
 - Peter asks John to ask Jesus who this will be
 - John then leans into Jesus’ breast and asked Him as they reclined at table
 - John was in the place of honor at the right of Jesus
 - Father reminded us that the *Bedouins* eat in this manner today
 - The renaissance painting of the Last Supper is far from this image *

Matthew 26 (Cont)

- **Matthew 26:26-30** *“Now as they were eating,...And when they went out to the Mount of Olives”*
 - At the beginning of the Passover, they most likely would have sung a number of Psalms
 - Father asked that at **Matthew 26:20** we add **Psalm 113-114** which would be sung at the beginning of the meal and **Psalm 115-118** toward the end
 - Notice the meal climaxed with the singing of **Psalm 118** (*Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord*) *

Matthew 26 (Cont)

- **Matthew 26:31-36** *“Then Jesus said to them,... Sit here, while I go yonder and pray”*
 - This passage is from **Zechariah 9-14**
 - Again, we see this emphasized in greater detail in John’s gospel
 - The *Garden of Gethsemane* is on the *Mount of Olives* facing the temple, directly opposite of the temple
 - Today, there is a beautiful church at the place Jesus wept and prayed over the city of Jerusalem
 - In the garden, there are several modern and ancient olive trees *

Matthew 26 (Cont)

- **Matthew 26:37-46** *“And taking with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee,...my betrayer is at hand”*
 - Father reminded us that the Passover (**Exodus 12:42**) was suppose to be a night of watching and prayer while awaiting the angel of death
 - So here, Jesus prays three times in the middle of the night asking His Father, if it was His will to let this cup pass from Him, but nevertheless, not as He willed but as God willed
 - Father asked why did Jesus pray in this manner

Matthew 26 (Cont)

- We know that as a human being Jesus did not want to die because death is bad
- Also, many point to Jesus as the High Priest who offered Himself up on the cross to the Father so that we could be saved
- But, Father pointed out that this was not what happened
- In fact, the Jews killed (murdered) Jesus
- Father stated that there is nothing anti-Semitic in this statement as it is a historical fact
- We know that the Jews were not permitted by the Romans to do this themselves, so they worked within the system to portray Jesus as a challenge to Caesar's rule

Matthew 26 (Cont)

- Further, the Jews did the same thing to Stephen, the first martyr
- Death by crucifixion was a terrible ordeal reserved for the most harsh criminals
- Because Jesus had a real human nature, He did not want to suffer in this manner
- Also, Jesus like all of us, was created in the image and likeness of God and for His eternity (**Wisdom 2**)
- It was because of the devil and envy that sin and death entered the world
- No one, not even soldiers in battle seek death

Matthew 26 (Cont)

- Father suggested that Jesus did not come to die, but to make known the Kingdom of God
- It was for this that the Jews put Him to death
- But, as father pointed out, God had the last word for the Kingdom of God will remain because Jesus rose from the dead since man was made for immortality
- Father pointed out that Jesus said this prayer three times *

Matthew 26 (Cont)

- **Matthew 26:47-51** *“While he was still speaking,...and cut off his ear”*
 - We learn from the other gospels that it was Peter who cut off this man’s ear
 - Peter obviously realized that he could not defeat all these armed men
 - Jesus was also not exercising His divine power at that moment
 - So, as before, Peter was trying to prevent Jesus from being taken captive
 - He certainly was not trying to kill this man, only to show that they were armed so those seeking Jesus might back off
 - But, once again, Jesus tells him to stop *

Matthew 26 (Cont)

- **Matthew 26:52-56** *“Then Jesus said to him,...Then all disciples forsook him and fled”*
 - We know from the other gospels that Jesus healed this man
 - We know from the Old Testament that one angel was able to wipe out the entire Syrian Army in one night (**Isaiah 37:36**)
 - Can we imagine what 12 legions of angels could do?
 - Father said this to show that all these events were predicted by God before they occurred
 - God is the author of history and ultimately is in control

Matthew 26 (Cont)

- But, He did not cause people to do these things to Jesus as everyone has free will to choose good or evil
- But in the end, no matter our choices, God is intimately in control of everything
- We may choose what we want, but God causes what He wants to happen *

Matthew 26 (Cont)

- **Matthew 26:57-62** *“Then those who had seized Jesus led him to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and elders had gathered...”*
 - In John’s Gospel, it says that they took Jesus to *Annas* first
 - *Annas* was considered to be the high priest by the Jewish elders because he was elected to that position
 - *Caiaphas* had been appointed to the position of high priest by the Romans
 - This made him, according to Roman law, the high priest
 - But, the Jews took Jesus to *Annas* and then to *Caiaphas* for interrogation *

Matthew 26 (Cont)

- **Matthew 26:63-64** *“But Jesus was silent...and coming on the clouds of heaven”*
 - *“The living God”* is another example of the Semitic flavor in Matthew *and it can be seen in **Matthew 16***
 - Matthew is suggesting to his audience that He is the living God in contrast to the dead stone or wood god of the pagan nations
 - Typically, Mark and Luke simply refer to Him as “God”
 - Father pointed out that Christ and son of God are synonymous and both were titles for the King of Jerusalem

Matthew 26 (Cont)

- The Jews asked Jesus if He was the long-awaited Messiah (anointed one)
- His response (*And Jesus said you have said so*) comes out a little funny in English as it seems as though He was avoiding the answer
- But, at this point, He was not afraid of admitting that He was the Christ
- We saw this when He entered Jerusalem riding on a donkey as this was the most public act He could do in proclaiming this message
- It also reflected back to **Zechariah 9:9** where the people were crying out, “Son of David”

Matthew 26 (Cont)

- On Palm Sunday, Jesus did not tell the people to be quiet about this
- So, at this point, the High Priest was asking Him to confirm this fact and He replied, *"You have said so"*
- Father pointed out that in the parallel text in Mark's Gospel, Jesus responds, *"I am"* (The holy name for God)
- So, Matthew is using a Semitic way of saying, *"I am"*
- This is why Jesus follows with, *"But I tell you, hereafter you will see the son of man (**Daniel 7:13**) seated at the right hand of power, and coming on the clouds of heaven"*
- At this point, Jesus is calling Himself as the Messiah of **Daniel 7:13**, *"riding on the clouds ascending to the throne of God" **

Matthew 26 (Cont)

- **Matthew 26:65-68** *“Then the high priest tore his robes,...Who is it that struck you?”*
 - The high priest tore his robe and proclaimed that Jesus has uttered blasphemy because He proclaimed Himself to be the Messiah, but he was not
 - The rest of the crowd agrees and says that He deserved to be put to death
 - Then, they spat in His face and struck him demanding that He identify those persecuting Him *

Matthew 26 (Cont)

- **Matthew 26:69-75** *“Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard....And he went out and wept bitterly”*
 - Three times Peter will deny knowing Jesus
 - We hear many other details in John’s Gospel where we learn of the charcoal fire
 - They know that Peter was from Galilee because of his accent
 - Father pointed out that people spoke with a different dialect from all over Israel
 - It would be the same as someone from New York and someone else from New Jersey
 - The narrative continues in **Matthew 27**