

## The Red-Letter Words of Yeshua ~ Part 167

### Passion Week ~ Trial Before the Sanhedrin ~ Part 1

In our last post, we continued to examine the final days of **Yeshua's** life and ministry. We concluded our examination of His **Betrayal & Arrest**. In this post, we begin to explore **Yeshua's Trial Before the Sanhedrin**.

#### Introduction <sup>1</sup>

Following **Yeshua's** arrest, **Yochanan** records that **Yeshua** was first taken before **Annas** ('Anan), who had been the High Priest from 6-15 CE before being deposed by the **Roman** procurator prior to **Pilate**. Annas still continued to exercise great influence among the Jewish community. **Yeshua** was then sent to **Annas'** son-in-law, **Caiaphas**, who presides over the **Sanhedrin**, which is the **Jewish Supreme Court**. The **Sanhedrin** is composed of 71 elders drawn from among the chief priests and scribes.

Laced among the account of **Yeshua's** trial is the account of **Kefa's** struggle for loyalty to **Yeshua**.

#### Location Map

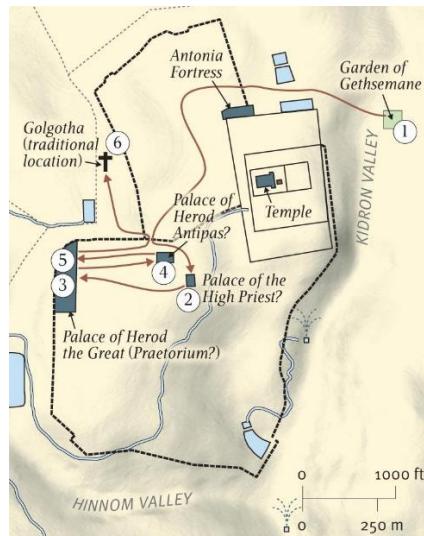


Image from ESV Study Bible

[Click here to enlarge the image.](#)

#### Yeshua Led to Annas

<sup>12</sup> *So the detachment of Roman soldiers and their captain, together with the Temple Guard of the Judeans, arrested Yeshua, tied him up, <sup>13</sup> and took Him first to 'Anan, the father-in-law of Kayafa, who was cohen gadol that fateful year. <sup>14</sup> (It was Kayafa who had advised the Judeans that it would be good for one man to die on behalf of the people.)* <sup>2</sup>

#### Kefa's First Denial

<sup>15</sup> *Shim'on Kefa and another talmid followed Yeshua. The second talmid* (probably Yochanan himself) *was known to the Cohen HaGadol, and he went with Yeshua into the courtyard of the Cohen HaGadol; <sup>16</sup> but Kefa stood outside by the gate. So, the other talmid, the one known to the*

<sup>1</sup> F. LaGard Smith, The Narrated Bible in Chronological Order.

<sup>2</sup> Yochanan 18:12-14.

**Cohen HaGadol, went back out and spoke to the woman on duty at the gate, then brought Kefa inside.** <sup>17</sup> **The woman at the gate said to Kefa, "Aren't you another of that man's talmidim?" He said, "No, I'm not."** <sup>3</sup>

## Yeshua Before 'Anan

**<sup>19</sup> The Cohen HaGadol questioned Yeshua about His talmidim and about what He taught.**

**<sup>20</sup> Yeshua answered, "I have spoken quite openly to everyone; I have always taught in a synagogue or in the Temple where all Jews meet together, and I have said nothing in secret; <sup>21</sup> so why are you questioning me? Question the ones who heard what I said to them; look, they know what I said."** <sup>22</sup> At these words, one of the guards standing by slapped Yeshua in the face and said, "This is how you talk to the Cohen HaGadol?" <sup>23</sup> Yeshua answered him, "If I said something wrong, state publicly what was wrong; but if I was right, why are you hitting me?" <sup>4</sup>

**This is how you talk to the Cohen HaGadol?** Yeshua was not answering disrespectfully but pointing out that even though this late-night meeting was most irregular, normal legal procedure requires the obtaining of independent witnesses. Yeshua was willing to trust public reports of His public behavior, as is clear from v. 23. Yeshua's response is like Sha'ul's in Acts 26:26: "**These things ... didn't happen in some back alley.**"

In our next post, we continue to follow **Yeshua's Trial Before the Sanhedrin.**

---

<sup>3</sup> Yochanan 18:15–17.

<sup>4</sup> Yochanan 18:19–23.