

S.O.H.L.

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS

Pronounced "Soul"

September 15, 2014

Blinded of the Truth

MATTHEW 26:59-68 NIV – (59) The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for false evidence against Jesus so that they could put him to death. (60) But they did not find any, though many false witnesses came forward. Finally two came forward (61) and declared, "This fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God and rebuild it in three days.'" (62) Then the high priest stood up and said to Jesus, "Are you not going to answer? What is this testimony that these men are bringing against you?" (63) But Jesus remained silent. The high priest said to him, "I charge you under oath by the living God: Tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God." (64) "You have said so," Jesus replied. "But I say to all of you: From now on you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven." (65) Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "He has spoken blasphemy! Why do we need any more witnesses? Look, now you have heard the blasphemy. (66) What do you think?" "He is worthy of death," they answered. (67) Then they spit in his face and struck him with their fists. Others slapped him (68) and said, "Prophecy to us, Messiah. Who hit you?"

The chief priests, elders, and all the council. These titles of authority are probably counterfeit; they are omitted by the best uncials and the Vulgate. The words cannot imply strictly that the whole Sanhedrin was present and consenting to the present proceedings; for we know that such members as Nicodemus and Joseph of Arimathaea did not consent to the infamous deeds of the rest (**Luke 23:51; John 19:39**). Sought false witness. The Sanhedrists had decided on Christ's death; it only remained to find such a charge against him as would compel the Roman authorities to deal instantly with him. For their purpose the truth of the accusation was irrelevant, so long as it was established, according to Law (**Deuteronomy 17:6; Deuteronomy 19:15**), by two or three witnesses examined apart. They knew well that Christ could be condemned on *no true testimony*, hence they scrupled not to seek false. If they had meant to deal fairly, they would have allowed some who knew him to speak in his favor; but this was the very last thing which they desired or would have sanctioned.

Many today do not want any to speak the gospel of truth, therefore, we try or attempt to crucify Him again to be free from what we know is truth. The truth was there in their faces, but they didn't want it! The truth today is before us, but just like then, many stand with the Sandhedrists. We slap, mock, spit, lie and deny Him! But the truth still exists. And His mercy lasts forever! If you are one who stands for Christ and I really mean "You stand on His foundation", pick up your cross and be crucified with Him.

SCRIPTURE READING

AMOS 9:6

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"Jesus didn't die to save me from God. Jesus died to save me from myself."

September 1, 2014

