

# Mark 14:53

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And they led Jesus away to the high priest: and with him were assembled all the chief priests and the elders and the scribes.

## Analysis

---

**And they led Jesus away to the high priest** (ἀπήγαγον τὸν Ἰησοῦν πρὸς τὸν ἀρχιερέα, apēgagon ton Iēsoun pros ton archierea)—The verb ἀπάγω (apagō) means 'to lead away,' often used of prisoners led to execution. Jesus is brought before Caiaphas, though John's Gospel clarifies He first appeared before Annas (John 18:13). **All the chief priests and the elders and the scribes** constituted the Sanhedrin, the supreme Jewish council of 70-71 members.

Mark emphasizes the full assembly—this was no hasty midnight kangaroo court but the entire religious establishment united against Christ. The threefold designation (chief priests, elders, scribes) represents the complete religious, civic, and legal authority of Judaism. What Adam lost in a garden, Christ would reclaim through obedience in another garden, now facing the concentrated opposition of fallen religious power.

## Historical Context

---

The Sanhedrin normally met in the Chamber of Hewn Stone on the Temple Mount, but night sessions there were illegal under Jewish law. This gathering likely occurred at Caiaphas's palace. The high priest Caiaphas (AD 18-36) was appointed by Rome and served at their pleasure, making him politically compromised. His father-in-law Annas, though deposed, still wielded enormous influence.

## Related Passages

---

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

**Psalm 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

## Study Questions

---

1. Why does Mark emphasize that the entire religious establishment assembled against Jesus?
2. How does Jesus's silence before illegally-constituted religious authority inform Christian response to corrupt institutions?
3. What does the full assembly of the Sanhedrin reveal about the depth of religious opposition to Christ's claims?

## Interlinear Text

---

καὶ ἀπῆγαγον τὸν Ἰησοῦν πρὸς τὸν ἀρχιερεῖς καὶ  
And away G3588 Jesus to G3588 the chief priests And  
G2532 G520 G2424 G4314 G749 G2532

συνέρχονται αὐτῷ πάντες οἱ ἀρχιερεῖς καὶ οἱ  
were assembled with him all G3588 the chief priests And G3588  
G4905 G846 G3956 G749 G2532

πρεσβύτεροι καὶ οἱ γραμματεῖς  
the elders And G3588 the scribes  
G4245 G2532 G1122

---

From KJV Study • [kjvstudy.org](http://kjvstudy.org)