

Resisting Jesus' Authority

Mark 14: 53-65

- I. Someone who is righteous doesn't need to defend Himself (Mark 14:53-61a).
 - A. The Jewish council held an illegal trial during the night – as Peter followed them (14:53-54).
 - B. Because they had no evidence of wrong, the Jews brought false accusations (14:55-59).
 - C. Jesus remained silent against the false charges of His accusers (14:60,61a).
 - Guilt makes us angry; doing right gives us peace.
 - When we've done the right thing, we can trust God instead of always defending ourselves.

- II. Jesus' authority angers those who won't submit to it (Mark 14:61b-65)
 - A. When pressed by the high priest Jesus acknowledged that He was the Messiah, God and Judge (14:61b, 62).
 - The ultimate defense of Christ was His identity.
 - Those who resist Jesus' authority now will face it later.
 - Those who accept Jesus' authority will believe in Him and have eternal life (John 3:35-36; John 1:11-12).
 - B. The high priest was enraged, accusing Jesus of blasphemy (63-64a).
 - C. The Jewish council condemned Jesus to death and subjected Jesus to mocking and abuse (64b-65).
 - Abuse is the last resort of angry, guilty people.