

The Plot Against Jesus

(Matthew 26:1-5)

When Jesus had finished saying all these things, he said to his disciples, ² "As you know, the Passover is two days away—and the Son of Man will be handed over to be crucified." ³ Then the chief priests and the elders of the people assembled in the palace of the high priest, whose name was Caiaphas, ⁴ and they plotted to arrest Jesus in some sly way and kill him. ⁵ "But not during the Feast," they said, "or there may be a riot among the people."

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- When Jesus had finished saying **all these things (chapters 24,25 but also signaling the end of Jesus' prophetic ministry)**
- he said to his disciples, "As you know, **the Passover** is two days away..." (Hebrew) **(from Hebrew verb meaning 'to pass over' / lamb's blood and angel of death / plague 10)**
- he said to his disciples, "As you know, the Passover is **two days away...**" **(this is Tuesday, Passover on Thursday)**
- "...and the Son of Man **will be handed over to be crucified.**" (Greek) **(prophetic present = is handed over – it is absolutely certain!)**
- "...and the Son of Man **will be handed over to be crucified.**" **(Jesus will passively hand over his life)**

Then the chief priests and the elders of the people assembled in the palace of the high priest, whose name was Caiaphas

- Then the **chief priests** and **elders** of the people **(the Sanhedrin)**
- assembled **in the palace of the high priest (not the usual place for Sanhedrin meetings – it's a secret meeting with a sinister plot)**
- assembled in **the palace** of the high priest (Greek) **(Greek can mean open courtyard or palace)**
- assembled in the palace of **the high priest (one who sacrificed for peoples' sins once a year in the Holy of Holies)**
- whose name was **Caiaphas** (see also John 11:50) **(from AD 18-36)**

and they plotted to arrest Jesus in some sly way and kill him

- and **they plotted** to arrest Jesus (Greek) **(literally = deliberated = didn't know exactly what to do about Jesus)**
- and they plotted **to arrest** Jesus (Greek) **(literally = to seize, to take hold of)**
- **in some sly way** and kill him (Greek) **(literally = bait, a snare, crafty)**

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and they plotted to arrest Jesus in some sly way and kill him

- in some sly way and **kill him (what a plan from supposed God-fearing men, religious leaders / gangsters and thugs / premeditated murder)**

"But not during the Feast," they said, "or there may be a riot among the people."

- "But **not during the feast,**" they said **(they didn't want it during the feast)**
- "But not during the feast," they **said** (Greek) **(said it repeatedly!)**
- "But not during the feast," **they** said **(but God said differently)**
- "or there may be **a riot among the people.**" (see Matthew 21:9-11) **(because they were so excited by him on Palm Sunday)**
- what actually DID happen? **(it did happen during the feast!!)**
- what does this stress about Jesus' death, most importantly? **(Jesus gave up his own life voluntarily / it was according to his will not man's)**