

## Lessons 5, 6

But that was not the choice Judas made. Instead of going to the One who could have made things right in his heart, Judas

simply threw the pieces of silver down in the temple, went out in utter despair, and ended his life.



Use this checklist to review for Quiz 1:

- I know the meanings of the study words.
- I reviewed all the *We Remember*s in Section 1.
- I reviewed all the exercises in Lesson 4.



When you are ready, ask your teacher for Quiz 1.

# SECTION 2

Lesson

# 6

## Law or No Law



### Study Words



*convicted*: (kən vik'ted) declared guilty of a crime

*blasphemy*: (blas' fə mē) claiming to be God

The servant girl had opened the courtyard door and let in the chief priests and scribes. She let in the elders and members of the Jewish council. Now they sat waiting

in the palace of Caiaphas, the most important priest of all.

Why had all those Jewish leaders come together in the dark morning hours? How

long had they waited? What were they waiting for?

They waited in hopes that the multitude of armed men they had sent to the Mount of Olives had captured Jesus of Nazareth. Months ago, they had made up their minds that the Man from Galilee must die. His power and popularity made them fiercely jealous. His goodness filled them with fury. All efforts to capture Him before this had failed. But one of His disciples had promised to betray Him that night, so they had high hopes of at last getting Him in their power.

Then the door opened once more and the Man they wanted stood bound before them. Yes, they had tied Him up, even though it was against the law to bind a man before they proved him guilty of a crime.

They disobeyed that law because Jesus of Nazareth was altogether different from other men. He could work miracles. They thought He might escape in some miraculous way if they didn't tie Him. They couldn't risk letting that happen, law or no law.

Of course, they easily could have done away with Him on the Mount of Olives. But ever since the Romans had taken over their country, the Jews were not allowed to put anyone to death. That was one law they

didn't dare disobey, for the Romans had swift and cruel ways to punish Jews who didn't do what they said.

If a Jew broke a Jewish law, the Romans allowed the leaders to punish the man in any way they pleased—just so they didn't put him to death. When the Jews thought one of their people deserved to die, they had to take him to Pilate (pī' lət), the Roman governor. They had to state the crime the accused man had committed. If the governor found the man guilty, the Romans would put him to death.

Now the big question was this: How could the Jewish leaders convince Pilate to kill Jesus when they knew the Man had done nothing worthy of death? They would need to have a trial and accuse Jesus of a serious crime.

It was against the law to have a trial before daylight, but the high priest went ahead anyhow, law or no law. He was desperate to blame Jesus for a crime and deliver Him to Pilate before the Passover crowds filled the streets of Jerusalem.

The Law of Moses required two witnesses who agreed before a man could be condemned to death. Since Jesus hadn't done anything wrong, Caiaphas realized they would need two people who were

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willing to tell the same lies about Him.

Evidently part of the multitude who went to the Mount of Olives to arrest Jesus had come along to hear the trial. Now when the leaders called for false witnesses, many dishonest men offered made-up stories that sounded bad enough to condemn Jesus to death. But they couldn't find two men whose lies agreed.

All this time Jesus stood there, saying nothing to defend Himself. Finally the high priest asked, "Have You no answer? Don't You hear what these people say about You?"

But Jesus still said nothing.

Then Caiaphas demanded, "Tell us if You are the Messiah, the Son of God."

At last, Jesus spoke. "Yes, I am, and you will see Me sitting at the right hand of God. You will see Me coming in the clouds of Heaven."

At that, the high priest tore his clothes and pre-

tended to be totally shocked. "We don't need any other witnesses," he cried. "You heard His **blasphemy**. What do you think?"

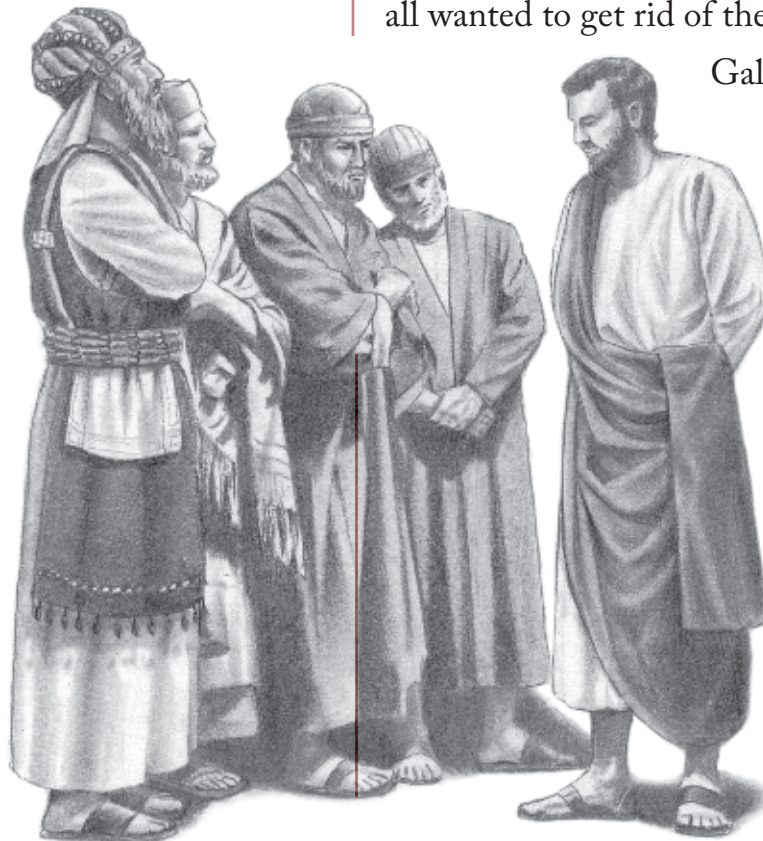
The chief priests and all the others answered, "He is worthy of death!"

The law said a man could not be **convicted** on his own word. But the Jews didn't mind breaking that law either. They said He must die.

How could those Jewish leaders stand to break so many laws? They usually wanted people to think that they were careful to keep the law. But this time they wanted something so badly they didn't care. They all wanted to get rid of the Man from

Galilee, law or no law.

So early in the morning, they led Jesus away to Pilate, the Roman governor.



## FROM THE STORY

Number these events in order.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ False witnesses told different lies about Jesus.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Jesus was brought into the high priest's palace.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Jesus was led to Pilate.  
\_\_\_\_\_ The chief priests said Jesus was worthy of death.  
\_\_\_\_\_ The high priest said, "Tell us if You are the Messiah."

Complete the sentences.

2. The name of the Jewish high priest was \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The name of the Roman governor of Judea was \_\_\_\_\_.

## THAT'S OUR GOD

Write the words of Jesus that the priests said were blasphemy.

4. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## HOW THEY LIVED

Circle the letter of the correct answer.

5. When the chief priests tied up Jesus in the garden,
  - a. they broke a law, because He hadn't been proved guilty yet.
  - b. they condemned Him to death.
  - c. it prevented Him from getting away.

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6. The Romans said the Jewish leaders couldn't
  - a. enforce the Jewish law.
  - b. punish lawbreakers.
  - c. put a guilty man to death.
7. The Law of Moses said a man on trial could be
  - a. condemned to death if two witnesses agreed.
  - b. tried during the night.
  - c. found guilty by his own word.

**In your own words, write four laws the Jewish leaders broke during Jesus' trial.**

8. a. You shall not tie up a prisoner before he is \_\_\_\_\_. (page 19)  
b. You shall not hold a trial during \_\_\_\_\_. (page 19)  
c. You shall have two witnesses that \_\_\_\_\_. (page 19)  
d. You shall not convict a man by his \_\_\_\_\_. (page 20)

9. Write the Roman law the Jewish leaders didn't dare break. Tell why not.

You shall not \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## WE REMEMBER

**Check all that were true about Peter.**

10. a. \_\_\_\_\_ He warmed himself by the fire in the courtyard.  
b. \_\_\_\_\_ He denied Jesus three times.  
c. \_\_\_\_\_ He said, "Yes, I know the Man. I am His disciple."  
d. \_\_\_\_\_ When Jesus looked at him, Peter remembered, "Before the rooster crows twice, you will deny Me three times."  
e. \_\_\_\_\_ A servant asked if he was one of Jesus' disciples.