

suffering, and had denied his teacher. Jesus had not given way to the temptations of resistance when his disciples had secured two swords to defend him with, nor to the temptation of fear when he stood before the people in Jerusalem in the presence of the heathen, nor when the soldiers came to bind him and lead him to his trial.

Jesus was brought to Caiaphas. Caiaphas asked Jesus as to his teaching, but Jesus, knowing that Caiaphas questioned him not in order to know what his teaching was but only in order to accuse him, gave no direct answer, but said: I have concealed nothing and conceal nothing; if thou wouldst know what my teaching is, ask of those who have heard and understood it, for this, one of the servitors of the high priest struck Jesus on the cheek, and Jesus asked why he had struck him. The man gave no answer, and the high priest proceeded with the trial. They brought witnesses to prove that Jesus had boasted of destroying the Jewish religion. The high priest again questioned Jesus; but he, seeing that the other questioned him not to learn anything but only to keep up the appearance of justice, answered nothing.

Then the high priest asked him to say if he were Christ, the Son of God. Jesus answered: Yes, I am Christ, the Son of God; and now, while persecuting me, you will see that the Son of Man is equal to God.

And the high priest rejoiced over these words, and said to the other judges: Are not these words sufficient to condemn him? And the judges answered that they were, and condemned him to death. When they had said this, the crowd threw themselves upon Jesus, and they beat him, spat in his face, and abused him, but he held his peace.

The Jews had no power to put a man to death, they required a decision from the Roman governor; and, therefore, having condemned Jesus according to their law, and abused him, they brought him before Pilate, that he

should order him to be put to death. Pilate asked why they wished for his death, and they answered: Because he is an evil man. Pilate said: If he is an evil doer, judge him according to your law. They replied: We desire that thou shouldst put him to death, because he has sinned against Cæsar; he is a rebel, he has set the people at variance, he forbids tribute to be paid to Cæsar, and calls himself the King of the Jews. Pilate called Jesus to him and said: What means this? how art thou King of the Jews! Jesus said: Wouldst thou really know what my kingdom is, or dost thou ask me only for appearance sake? Pilate answered: I am no Jew, and it is the same to me whether thou callest thyself the King of the Jews or not; but I ask thee what man art thou, and why do they say that thou art a king? Jesus said: They say truly that I call myself a king. I am a king, but my kingdom is not of this world but of heaven. Earthly kings kill and fight, and they have soldiers to aid them, but thou seest that I do not resist, though I have been bound and beaten. I am a heavenly king, and all-powerful in the spirit.

Pilate said: Then it is true that thou callest thyself a king? Jesus answered: Thou knowest it thyself. Every man who lives in the truth is free. By this alone I live, and for this alone I teach; I reveal to men the truth that they are free through the spirit. Pilate said: Thou teachest truth, but no one knows what truth is, and each has his own conception of the truth. And having said this, he turned from Jesus and went again unto the Jews and said to them: I find no fault in this man. Why would you put him to death? The priests answered that he deserved death because he roused the people to revolt. Then Pilate in the presence of the high priests, began to question Jesus; but Jesus, seeing that he was only questioned for form's sake, answered nothing.