

10-2018

A Biographical Study of Caiaphas

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Recommended Citation

Willmington, Harold, "A Biographical Study of Caiaphas" (2018). *New Testament Biographies*. 36.
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Caiaphas

CHRONOLOGICAL SUMMARY

- I. Caiaphas and Christ
 - A. The plotter — “Then assembled together the chief priests, and the scribes, and the elders of the people, unto the palace of the high priest, who was called Caiaphas, And consulted that they might take Jesus by subtilty, and kill him. But they said, Not on the feast day, lest there be an uproar among the people” (Matt. 26:3-5).
 - B. The prosecutor
 1. The harassment by Caiaphas — “And the high priest arose, and said unto him, Answerest thou nothing? What is it which these witness against thee?” (Matt. 26:62).
 2. The hypocrisy of Caiaphas — “Then the high priest rent his clothes, saying, He hath spoken blasphemy; what further need have we of witness? Behold, now ye have heard his blasphemy” (Matt. 26:65).
 - C. The prophet
 1. The stating of his prophecy — “And one of them, named Caiaphas, being the high priest that same year, said unto them, Ye know nothing at all, nor consider that it is expedient for us, that one man should die for the people, and that the whole nation perish not” (John 11:49-50).
 2. The source behind his prophecy — It was the Holy Spirit himself who put the words into the mouth of this wicked high priest. “And this spake he not of himself: but being high priest that year, he prophesied that Jesus should die for the nation” (John 11:51).
 3. The salvation resulting from his prophecy — “And not for that nation only, but that also he should gather together in one the children of God that were scattered abroad” (John 11:52).
- II. Caiaphas and Peter
 - A. The demand by Caiaphas — “And Annas the high priest, and Caiaphas, and John, and Alexander, and as many as were of the kindred of the high priest, were gathered together at Jerusalem. And when they had set them in the midst, they asked, By what power, or by what name, have ye done this?” (Acts 4:6-7).
 - B. The declaration by Peter — “Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole” (Acts 4:10).

STATISTICS

First mention: Matthew 26:3

Final mention: Acts 4:6

Meaning of his name: “Depression”

Frequency of his name: Referred to nine times

Biblical books mentioning him: Four books (Matthew, Luke, John, Acts)

Occupation: High priest

Important fact about his life: He was the wicked Jewish high priest who plotted the death of Christ.