

A man with a grey beard, wearing a brown, fringed robe, leads a white lamb by a rope. The lamb has a dark blindfold over its eyes. They are in a courtyard with several stone columns. Other men in white robes are visible in the background, some with their hands clasped. The scene is dimly lit, suggesting an overcast day or a shaded area.

CORRUPTION OF THE LEVITICAL PRIESTHOOD

LEVITICAL PRIESTHOOD
HAD FAULTS

Assumption of Moses 5:1-6

(RHCV, R.H. Charles Version)

And when the times of chastisement draw nigh and vengeance arises through the kings who share in their guilt and punish them, They themselves also will be divided as to the truth. Wherefore it hath come to pass: "They will turn aside from righteousness and approach iniquity, and they will defile with pollutions the house of their worship," and "they will go a whoring after strange gods. (Continued...)

" For they will not follow the truth of God, but some will pollute the altar with the very gifts which they offer to the Lord, who are not priests but slaves, sons of slaves. And many in those times will respect the persons of the rich and receive gifts, and wrest judgment [on receiving presents]. And on this account the colony and the borders of their habitation

Ezekiel 22:26

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

"Her priests have done violence to My law and have profaned My holy things; they have made no distinction between the holy and the profane, and they have not taught the difference between the unclean and the clean; and they hide their eyes from My sabbaths, and I am profaned among them.

First Samuel 2:17

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

Thus the sin of the young men was very great before the LORD, **for the men despised the offering of the LORD.**

Hebrews 13:9-10

(ASV, American Standard Version)

Be not carried away by divers and strange teachings: for it is good that the heart be established by grace; not by meats, wherein they that occupied themselves were not profited. We have an altar, **whereof they have no right to eat that serve the tabernacle.**

Hosea 4:6

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge.
Because you have rejected knowledge, **I also will reject you from being My priest. Since you have forgotten the law of your God,** I also will forget your children.

Jeremiah 8:8

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

"How can you say, 'We are wise, And the law of the LORD is with us'? But behold, **the lying pen of the scribes** Has made it into a lie.

Malachi 2:7-8

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

"For the lips **of a priest** should preserve knowledge, and men should seek instruction from his mouth; for he is the messenger of the LORD of hosts. "**But as for you, you have turned aside from the way**; you have caused many to stumble by the instruction; you have corrupted the covenant of Levi," says the LORD of hosts.

Matthew 21:12-15

(ASV, American Standard Version)

And **Jesus entered into the temple of God, and cast out all them that sold and bought in the temple, and overthrew the tables of the money-changers,** and the seats of them that sold the doves; and he saith unto them, It is written, My house shall be called a house of prayer : but ye make it a den of robbers. And the blind and the lame came to him in the temple; and he healed them. (Continued...)

But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the wonderful things that he did, and the children that were crying in the temple and saying, Hosanna to the son of David; they were moved with indignation,

Matthew 23:13-32

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

"But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites,
because you shut off the kingdom of heaven from
people; for you do not enter in yourselves, nor do you
allow those who are entering to go in. [" Woe to you,
scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, because you devour
widows' houses, and for a pretense you make long
prayers; therefore you will receive greater
condemnation. (Continued...)

] "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, because you travel around on sea and land to make one proselyte; and when he becomes one, you make him twice as much a son of hell as yourselves. "Woe to you, blind guides, who say, 'Whoever swears by the temple, that is nothing; but whoever swears by the gold of the temple is obligated.' "You fools and blind men! Which is more important, the gold or the temple that sanctified the gold? (Continued...)

"And, 'Whoever swears by the altar, that is nothing, but whoever swears by the offering on it, he is obligated.'
"You blind men, which is more important, the offering, or the altar that sanctifies the offering? "Therefore, whoever swears by the altar, swears both by the altar and by everything on it. "And whoever swears by the temple, swears both by the temple and by Him who dwells within it. (Continued...)

"And whoever swears by heaven, swears both by the throne of God and by Him who sits upon it. "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cummin, and have neglected the weightier provisions of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness; but these are the things you should have done without neglecting the others. "You blind guides, who strain out a gnat and swallow a camel! "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! (Continued...)

For you clean the outside of the cup and of the dish, but inside they are full of robbery and self-indulgence. "You blind Pharisee, first clean the inside of the cup and of the dish, so that the outside of it may become clean also. "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which on the outside appear beautiful, but inside they are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness. (Continued...)

"So you, too, outwardly appear righteous to men, but inwardly you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness. "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you build the tombs of the prophets and adorn the monuments of the righteous, and say, 'If we had been living in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partners with them in shedding the blood of the prophets.' "So you testify against yourselves, that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets. (Continued...)

LEVITICAL PRIESTHOOD HAD FAULTS

"Fill up, then, the measure of the guilt of your fathers.

Second Chronicles 13:8-12

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

"So now you intend to resist the kingdom of the LORD through the sons of David, being a great multitude and having with you the golden calves which Jeroboam made for gods for you. "Have you not driven out the priests of the LORD, the sons of Aaron and the Levites, and made for yourselves priests like the peoples of other lands? Whoever comes to consecrate himself with a young bull and seven rams, even he may become a priest of what are no gods. (Continued...)

"But as for us, the LORD is our God, and we have not forsaken Him; and the sons of Aaron are ministering to the LORD as priests, and the Levites attend to their work. "Every morning and evening they burn to the LORD burnt offerings and fragrant incense, and the showbread is set on the clean table, and the golden lampstand with its lamps is ready to light every evening; for we keep the charge of the LORD our God, **but you have forsaken Him.** (Continued...)

"Now behold, God is with us at our head and His priests with the signal trumpets to sound the alarm against you. O sons of Israel, do not fight against the LORD God of your fathers, for you will not succeed."

Testament of Levi 14:1

(RHCVKJ, R.H. Charles Translation, Edited by Ken Johnson, Th.D.)

Now, my children, I have learned from the writing of Enoch that at the last you will deal ungodly, laying your hands on the Lord in all malice. Your brothers will be ashamed because of you, and all the Gentiles will mock you. Our father Israel will be pure from ungodliness **of the priests who will lay their hands upon the Savior of the world**. Pure is the heaven above the earth, and you are the light of the heaven as the sun and the moon.

(Continued...)

What will all the Gentiles do if you are darkened in ungodliness? You will bring a curse upon our race, for whom the light of the world came, which was given among you for the lighting up of every man. You will desire to slay him, teaching commandments contrary to the ordinances of God. The offerings of the Lord you will rob, and from His portion you will steal. Before you sacrifice to the Lord, you will take the choicest parts and, despite fulness, eating them with harlots.

(Continued...)

Amid excesses, you will teach the commandments of the Lord. The women that have husbands you will pollute in the virgins of Jerusalem you will defile. With harlots and adulteresses you will be joined. The daughters of the gentiles you would take for a wives, purifying them with an unlawful purification. In your union will be unto Sodom and Gomorrah, and ungodliness. You will be prideful because of the priesthood, lifting yourselves up against men.

(Continued...)

LEVITICAL PRIESTHOOD HAD FAULTS

Not only so, but being puffed up also against the commands of God, you will scoff at the holy things, mocking in spitefulness.

Testament of Levi 15:1

(RHCVKJ, R.H. Charles Translation, Edited by Ken Johnson, Th.D.)

Therefore, the temple which the Lord will choose will be desolate and uncleanness, And you will be captives throughout all nations. You will be an abomination among them, **and you will receive reproach and everlasting shame** from the righteous judgment of God. All who see you will flee from you. Were not for God's promises to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, our fathers, not one from my siege should be left upon the earth.

Testament of Levi 16:1

(RHCVKJ, R.H. Charles Translation, Edited by Ken Johnson, Th.D.)

I have also learned in the Book of Enoch that for seventy weeks you will go astray, **will profane the priesthood, pollute the sacrifices, corrupt the law, and ignore the words of the prophets.** In perverseness you will persecute righteous men, hate the godly and the poor of the words of the faithful. The man who renews the law in the power of the Most High, you will call a deceiver.

(Continued...)

At last, as you suppose, you will slay him, not understanding his resurrection, wickedly taking upon your own heads the innocent blood. Because of Him will your holy places be desolate, polluted, even to the ground, And you will have no place that is clean, but you will be among the Gentiles, a curse and a dispersion, until he will again look on you, and in pity will take you to himself through faith and water.

Malachi 1:6-10

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

"A son honors his father, and a servant his master. Then if I am a father, where is My honor? And if I am a master, where is My respect?' says the LORD of hosts to you, O priests who despise My name. But you say, 'How have we despised Your name?' "You are presenting defiled food upon My altar. But you say, 'How have we defiled You?' In that you say, 'The table of the LORD is to be despised.' "But when you present the blind for sacrifice, is it not evil? (Continued...)

And when you present the lame and sick, is it not evil? Why not offer it to your governor? Would he be pleased with you? Or would he receive you kindly?" says the LORD of hosts. "But now will you not entreat God's favor, that He may be gracious to us? With such an offering on your part, will He receive any of you kindly?" says the LORD of hosts. "Oh that there were one among you who would shut the gates, that you might not uselessly kindle fire on My altar! (Continued...)

LEVITICAL PRIESTHOOD HAD FAULTS

I am not pleased with you," says the LORD of hosts, "nor will I accept an offering from you.

Testament of Levi 18:1

(RHCVKJ, R.H. Charles Translation, Edited by Ken Johnson, Th.D.)

After the Lord punishes them, he will raise up to the priesthood a new priest, to whom all the words of the Lord will be revealed.

SPLITS WITHIN JUDAISM

Acts 23:6-8

(ASV, American Standard Version)

But when Paul perceived that the **one part were Sadducees and the other Pharisees**, he cried out in the council, Brethren, I am a Pharisee, a son of Pharisees: touching the hope and resurrection of the dead I am called in question. And when he had so said, there arose a dissension between the Pharisees and Sadducees; and the assembly was divided. **For the Sadducees say that there is no resurrection, neither angel, nor spirit; but the Pharisees confess both.**

Acts 24:5

(ASV, American Standard Version)

For we have found this man a pestilent fellow, and a mover of insurrections among all the Jews throughout the world, **and a ringleader of the sect of the Nazarenes:**

Acts 26:4-5

(ASV, American Standard Version)

My manner of life then from my youth up, which was from the beginning among mine own nation and at Jerusalem, know all the Jews; having knowledge of me from the first, if they be willing to testify, that after the **straitest sect of our religion I lived a Pharisee.**

Acts 28:22

(ASV, American Standard Version)

But we desire to hear of thee what thou thinkest: **for as concerning this sect**, it is known to us that everywhere it is spoken against.

Acts 4:1-3

(ASV, American Standard Version)

And as they spake unto the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and **the Sadducees** came upon them, being sore troubled because they taught the people, and proclaimed in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. And they laid hands on them, and put them in ward unto the morrow: for it was now eventide.

First Corinthians 15:12

(ASV, American Standard Version)

Now if Christ is preached that he hath been raised from the dead, **how say some among you that there is no resurrection of the dead?**

John 12:10-11

(ASV, American Standard Version)

But the chief priests took counsel that they might put Lazarus also to death; **because that by reason of him many of the Jews went away, and believed on Jesus.**

John 10:19-21

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

A division occurred again among the Jews because of these words. Many of them were saying, "He has a demon and is insane. Why do you listen to Him?" Others were saying, "These are not the sayings of one demon-possessed. A demon cannot open the eyes of the blind, can he?"

John 9:16

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

Therefore some of the Pharisees were saying, "This man is not from God, because He does not keep the Sabbath." But others were saying, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" **And there was a division among them.**

Acts 5:17-20

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

But the high priest rose up, along with all his associates (**that is the sect of the Sadducees**), and they were filled with jealousy. They laid hands on the apostles and put them in a public jail. But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the gates of the prison, and taking them out he said, "Go, stand and speak to the people in the temple the whole message of this Life."

Acts 24:14

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

"But this I admit to you, that according to the Way which they call **a sect** I do serve the God of our fathers, believing everything that is in accordance with the Law and that is written in the Prophets;

Mark 1:22

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

They were amazed at His teaching; for He was teaching them as one having authority, and **not as the scribes.**

TRADITIONS OF MEN

Acts 24:1

(ASV, American Standard Version)

And after five days the **high priest Ananias** came down with certain elders, and with an orator, one Tertullus; and they informed the governor against Paul.

Colossians 2:8-11

(ASV, American Standard Version)

Take heed lest there shall be any one that maketh spoil of you through his philosophy and vain deceit, **after the tradition of men**, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ: for in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily, and in him ye are made full, who is the head of all principality and power: in whom ye were also circumcised with a circumcision not made with hands, in the putting off of the body of the flesh, in the circumcision of Christ;

First Corinthians 4:6

(ASV, American Standard Version)

Now these things, brethren, I have in a figure transferred to myself and Apollos for your sakes; that in us ye might learn **not to go beyond the things which are written**; that no one of you be puffed up for the one against the other.

Isaiah 29:13

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

Then the Lord said, "Because this people draw near with their words And honor Me with their lip service, But they remove their hearts far from Me, **And their reverence for Me consists of tradition** learned by rote,

John 10:39

(ASV, American Standard Version)

They sought again to take him: and he went forth out of their hand.

John 11:47-53

(ASV, American Standard Version)

The chief priests therefore and the Pharisees gathered a council, and said, What do we? for this man doeth many signs. If we let him thus alone, all men will believe on him: and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation. But a certain one of them, **Caiaphas, being high priest that year,** said unto them, Ye know nothing at all, nor do ye take account that it is expedient for you that one man should die for the people, and that the whole nation perish not.

(Continued...)

Now this he said not of himself: but, **being high priest that year, he prophesied that Jesus should die for the nation**; and not for the nation only, but that he might also gather together into one the children of God that are scattered abroad. **So from that day forth they took counsel that they might put him to death.**

John 18:12-14

(ASV, American Standard Version)

So the band and **the chief captain, and the officers of the Jews, seized Jesus and bound him**, and led him to Annas first; for he was father in law to Caiaphas, who was high priest that year. Now Caiaphas was he that gave counsel to the Jews, that it was expedient that one man should die for the people.

John 19:15-16

(ASV, American Standard Version)

They therefore cried out, Away with him, away with him, crucify him! Pilate saith unto them, Shall I crucify your King? The chief priests answered, We have no king but C sar. Then therefore he delivered him unto them to be crucified.

John 7:32

(ASV, American Standard Version)

The Pharisees heard the multitude murmuring these things concerning him; **and the chief priests and the Pharisees sent officers to take him.**

Luke 19:47-48

(ASV, American Standard Version)

And he was teaching daily in the temple. But **the chief priests and the scribes and the principal men of the people sought to destroy him**: and they could not find what they might do; for the people all hung upon him, listening.

Luke 22:54

(ASV, American Standard Version)

And they seized him, and led him away, and **brought him into the high priest's house**. But Peter followed afar off.

Luke 22:66-71

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

When it was day, **the Council of elders of the people assembled, both chief priests and scribes, and they led Him away to their council chamber**, saying, "If You are the Christ, tell us." But He said to them, "If I tell you, you will not believe; and if I ask a question, you will not answer. "But from now on **THE SON OF MAN WILL BE SEATED AT THE RIGHT HAND** of the power **OF GOD.**" And they all said, "Are You the Son of God, then?" And He said to them, "Yes, I am. (Continued...)"

" Then they said, "What further need do we have of testimony? For we have heard it ourselves from His own mouth."

Luke 24:19-20

(ASV, American Standard Version)

And he said unto them, What things? And they said unto him, The things concerning Jesus the Nazarene, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people: and **how the chief priests and our rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him.**

Luke 6:11

(ASV, American Standard Version)

But **they were filled with madness**; and communed one with another what they might do to Jesus.

Luke 9:22

(ASV, American Standard Version)

saying, The Son of man must suffer many things, and **be rejected of the elders and chief priests and scribes**, and be killed, and the third day be raised up.

Mark 10:33-34

(ASV, American Standard Version)

saying, Behold, we go up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man shall be delivered unto **the chief priests and the scribes**; and they shall condemn him to death, and shall deliver him unto the Gentiles: and they shall **mock him**, and shall **spit upon him**, and shall **scourge him**, and shall **kill him**; and after three days he shall rise again.

Mark 12:10-12

(ASV, American Standard Version)

Have ye not read even this scripture: **The stone which the builders rejected**, The same was made the head of the corner; This was from the Lord, And it is marvellous in our eyes? And **they sought to lay hold on him**; and they feared the multitude; for they perceived that he spake the parable against them: and they left him, and went away.

Mark 12:35-40

(ASV, American Standard Version)

And Jesus answered and said, as he taught in the temple, How say the scribes that the Christ is the son of David? David himself said in the Holy Spirit, The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, Till I make thine enemies the footstool of thy feet. David himself calleth him Lord; and whence is he his son? And the common people heard him gladly. (Continued...)

And in his teaching he said, **Beware of the scribes, who desire to walk in long robes, and to have salutations in the marketplaces, and chief seats in the synagogues, and chief places at feasts:** they that devour widows' houses, and for a pretence make long prayers; these shall receive greater condemnation.

Mark 14:1

(ASV, American Standard Version)

Now after two days was the feast of the passover and the unleavened bread: and **the chief priests and the scribes** sought how they might take him with subtlety, **and kill him:**

Mark 14:10-11

(ASV, American Standard Version)

And Judas Iscariot, he that was one of the twelve, went away unto **the chief priests**, that he might deliver him unto them. And they, when they heard it, **were glad, and promised to give him money**. And he sought how he might conveniently deliver him unto them.

Mark 14:55-56

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

Now the chief priests and **the whole Council kept trying to obtain testimony against Jesus to put Him to death,** and they were not finding any. For many were giving false testimony against Him, but their testimony was not consistent.

Mark 14:62-65

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

And Jesus said, "I am; and you shall see THE SON OF MAN SITTING AT THE RIGHT HAND OF POWER, and COMING WITH THE CLOUDS OF HEAVEN." Tearing his clothes, the high priest said, "What further need do we have of witnesses? "You have heard the blasphemy; how does it seem to you?" And they all condemned Him to be deserving of death. **Some began to spit at Him, and to blindfold Him, and to beat Him with their fists, and to say to Him, "Prophecy! (Continued...)**

" And the officers received Him with slaps in the face.

Mark 15:1

(ASV, American Standard Version)

And straightway in the morning **the chief priests with the elders and scribes, and the whole council, held a consultation, and bound Jesus,** and carried him away, and delivered him up to Pilate.

Mark 15:10

(ASV, American Standard Version)

For he perceived that **for envy the chief priests had delivered him up.**

Mark 7:13

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

thus **invalidating the word of God by your tradition which you have handed down**; and you do many things such as that."

Mark 7:8-9

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

"Neglecting the commandment of God, you hold to the tradition of men." He was also saying to them, "You are experts at setting aside the commandment of God in order to keep your tradition."

Matthew 15:3-6

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

And He answered and said to them, "**Why do you yourselves transgress the commandment of God for the sake of your tradition?**" For God said, 'HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER,' and, 'HE WHO SPEAKS EVIL OF FATHER OR MOTHER IS TO BE PUT TO DEATH.'

"But you say, 'Whoever says to his father or mother, "Whatever I have that would help you has been given to God," he is not to honor his father or his mother.' **And by this you invalidated the word of God for the sake of your tradition.**

Matthew 15:9

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

BUT IN VAIN DO THEY WORSHIP ME, **TEACHING AS
DOCTRINES THE PRECEPTS OF MEN.**"

Matthew 16:21

(ASV, American Standard Version)

From that time began Jesus to show unto his disciples, that he must go unto Jerusalem, **and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes**, and be killed, and the third day be raised up.

Matthew 26:1-5

(ASV, American Standard Version)

And it came to pass, when Jesus had finished all these words, he said unto his disciples, Ye know that after two days the passover cometh, and the Son of man is delivered up to be crucified. Then were gathered together the **chief priests, and the elders of the people, unto the court of the high priest,** who was called Caiaphas; **and they took counsel together that they might take Jesus by subtlety, and kill him.** (Continued...)

But they said, Not during the feast, lest a tumult arise
among the people.

Matthew 26:47

(ASV, American Standard Version)

And while he yet spake, lo, Judas, one of the twelve, came, and with him a great multitude with swords and staves, **from the chief priests and elders of the people.**

Matthew 26:59-60

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

Now the chief priests and **the whole Council kept trying to obtain false testimony against Jesus, so that they might put Him to death.** They did not find any, even though many false witnesses came forward. But later on two came forward,

Matthew 27:1-8

(ASV, American Standard Version)

Now when morning was come, **all the chief priests and the elders of the people took counsel against Jesus to put him to death**: and they bound him, and led him away, and delivered him up to Pilate the governor. Then Judas, who betrayed him, when he saw that he was condemned, repented himself, and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to **the chief priests** and elders, saying, I have sinned in that I betrayed innocent blood. But they said, What is that to us? see thou to it.

(Continued...)

And he cast down the pieces of silver into the sanctuary,
and departed; and he went away and hanged himself.
And **the chief priests** took the pieces of silver, and said,
It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since it is
the price of blood. And they took counsel, and bought
with them the potter's field, to bury strangers in.
Wherefore that field was called, The field of blood, unto
this day.

Matthew 27:41

(ASV, American Standard Version)

In like manner also **the chief priests mocking him**, with
the scribes and elders, said,

John 19:7

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

The Jews answered him, "**We have a law**, and by that law He ought to die because **He made Himself out to be the Son of God.**"

PERSECUTION OF
CHRISTIANS

PERSECUTION DIRECTLY
FROM THE SANHEDRIN

Acts 22:4-5

(ASV, American Standard Version)

and I persecuted this Way unto the death, binding and delivering into prisons both men and women. **As also the high priest doth bear me witness, and all the estate of the elders:** from whom also I received letters unto the brethren, and journeyed to Damascus to bring them also that were there unto Jerusalem in bonds to be punished.

Acts 5:21-42

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

Upon hearing this, they entered into the temple about daybreak and began to teach. **Now when the high priest and his associates came, they called the Council together, even all the Senate of the sons of Israel,** and sent orders to the prison house for them to be brought.

But the officers who came did not find them in the prison; and they returned and reported back, saying, "We found the prison house locked quite securely and the guards standing at the doors; (Continued...)"

but when we had opened up, we found no one inside." Now when the captain of the temple guard and the chief priests heard these words, they were greatly perplexed about them as to what would come of this. But someone came and reported to them, "The men whom you put in prison are standing in the temple and teaching the people! (Continued...)"

" Then the captain went along with the officers and proceeded to bring them back without violence (for they were afraid of the people, that they might be stoned). When they had brought them, they stood them before the Council. The high priest questioned them, saying, "We gave you strict orders not to continue teaching in this name, and yet, you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and intend to bring this man's blood upon us.

(Continued...)

" But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men. "The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom you had put to death by hanging Him on a cross. "He is the one whom God exalted to His right hand as a Prince and a Savior, to grant repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins. "And we are witnesses of these things; and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey Him. (Continued...)

" But when they heard this, they were cut to the quick and intended to kill them. But a Pharisee named Gamaliel, a teacher of the Law, respected by all the people, stood up in the Council and gave orders to put the men outside for a short time. And he said to them, "Men of Israel, take care what you propose to do with these men. "For some time ago Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a group of about four hundred men joined up with him. (Continued...)

But he was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and came to nothing. "After this man, Judas of Galilee rose up in the days of the census and drew away some people after him; he too perished, and all those who followed him were scattered. "So in the present case, I say to you, stay away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or action is of men, it will be overthrown; but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them; (Continued...)

or else you may even be found fighting against God."

They took his advice; and after calling the apostles in, they flogged them and ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and then released them. So they went on their way from the presence of the Council, rejoicing that they had been considered worthy to suffer shame for His name. And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they kept right on teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

Acts 6:12-14

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

And they stirred up the people, the elders and the scribes, **and they came up to him and dragged him away and brought him before the Council. They put forward false witnesses** who said, "This man incessantly speaks against this holy place and the Law; for we have heard him say that this Nazarene, Jesus, will destroy this place and alter the customs which Moses handed down to us."

Galatians 1:13-14

(ASV, American Standard Version)

For ye have heard of my manner of life in time past in the Jews' religion, **how that beyond measure I persecuted the church of God,** and made havoc of it: and I advanced in the Jews' religion beyond many of mine own age among my countrymen, being more exceedingly zealous for the traditions of my fathers.

Matthew 23:29-39

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you build the tombs of the prophets and adorn the monuments of the righteous, and say, 'If we had been living in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partners with them in shedding the blood of the prophets.' "So you testify against yourselves, that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets. "Fill up, then, the measure of the guilt of your fathers.

(Continued...)

"You serpents, you brood of vipers, how will you escape the sentence of hell? "Therefore, behold, I am sending you prophets and wise men and scribes; (Continued...)

some of them you will kill and crucify, and some of them you will scourge in your synagogues, and persecute from city to city, so that upon you may fall the guilt of all the righteous blood shed on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah, the son of Berechiah, whom you murdered between the temple and the altar. "Truly I say to you, all these things will come upon this generation. (Continued...)

"Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, the way a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were unwilling. "Behold, your house is being left to you desolate! "For I say to you, from now on you will not see Me until you say, 'BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD!'"

Second Corinthians 11:23-25

(ASV, American Standard Version)

Are they ministers of Christ? (I speak as one beside himself) I more; in labors more abundantly, in prisons more abundantly, in stripes above measure, in deaths oft. Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one. **Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned,** thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day have I been in the deep;

Acts 20:19

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

serving the Lord with all humility and with tears and with trials **which came upon me through the plots of the Jews;**

Acts 5:40-41

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

They took his advice; and after calling the apostles in, **they flogged them and ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus**, and then released them. So they went on their way from the presence of the Council, rejoicing that they had been considered worthy to suffer shame for His name.

John 9:20-23

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

His parents answered them and said, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but how he now sees, we do not know; or who opened his eyes, we do not know. Ask him; he is of age, he will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; **for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone confessed Him to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue.** For this reason his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

POST-MESSIAH

ZIONIST 3RD TEMPLE
(ZIONISM)

Second Corinthians 5:1-5

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

For we know that if the **earthly tent which is our house is torn down**, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, **eternal in the heavens**. For indeed in this house we groan, longing to be clothed with our dwelling from heaven, inasmuch as we, having put it on, will not be found naked. For indeed while we are in this tent, we groan, being burdened, because we do not want to be unclothed but to be clothed, so that what is mortal will be swallowed up by life. (Continued...)

Now He who prepared us for this very purpose is God,
who gave to us the Spirit as a pledge.

Second Baruch [Apocalypse of Baruch] 4:2-6

(CPR, Cepher (Modified))

Do you think that this is that city of which I said: On the palms of My hands have I graven you? This building now built in your midst is not that which is revealed with Me, that which prepared beforehand here from the time when I took counsel to make Paradise, and showed Adam before he sinned, but when he transgressed the commandment it was removed from him, **as also Paradise**. And after these things I showed it to My servant Abraham by night among the portions of the victims. (Continued...)

And again also I showed it to Moses on Mount Sinai when I showed to the likeness of the tabernacle and all its vessels. And now, behold, **it is preserved with Me, as Paradise.**

Matthew 27:25

(ASV, American Standard Version)

And all the people answered and said, **His blood be on us, and on our children.**

Revelation 2:9

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

I know your tribulation and your poverty (but you are rich), and the blasphemy by those **who say they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan.**

Revelation 3:9

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

Behold, I will cause those of **the synagogue of Satan, who say that they are Jews and are not**, but lie--I will make them come and bow down at your feet, and make them know that I have loved you.

PHARISEES, JUDAISM &
ZIONISM

John 11:45-53

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

Therefore many of the Jews who came to Mary, and saw what He had done, believed in Him. But some of them went to the Pharisees and told them the things which Jesus had done. Therefore the chief priests and the Pharisees convened a council, and were saying, "What are we doing? For this man is performing many signs. "If we let Him go on like this, all men will believe in Him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation. (Continued...)

" But one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, "You know nothing at all, nor do you take into account that it is expedient for you that one man die for the people, and that the whole nation not perish. (Continued...)

" Now he did not say this on his own initiative, but being high priest that year, he prophesied that Jesus was going to die for the nation, and not for the nation only, but in order that He might also gather together into one the children of God who are scattered abroad. **So from that day on they planned together to kill Him.**

John 18:36

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

Jesus answered, "**My** kingdom is not of this world. If **My** kingdom were of this world, then **My** servants would be fighting so that **I** would not be **handed over to the Jews**; but as it is, **My** kingdom is not of this realm."

Mark 3:6

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

The Pharisees went out and immediately began **conspiring** with the Herodians against Him, as to how they might destroy Him.

Mark 8:11

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

The Pharisees came out and began to argue with Him, seeking from Him a sign from heaven, **to test Him.**

Matthew 16:5-12

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

And the disciples came to the other side of the sea, but they had forgotten to bring any bread. And Jesus said to them, "Watch out and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees." They began to discuss this among themselves, saying, "He said that because we did not bring any bread." But Jesus, aware of this, said, "You men of little faith, why do you discuss among yourselves that you have no bread? (Continued...)"

"Do you not yet understand or remember the five loaves of the five thousand, and how many baskets full you picked up? "Or the seven loaves of the four thousand, and how many large baskets full you picked up? "How is it that you do not understand that I did not speak to you concerning bread? But beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees." Then they understood that He did not say to beware of the leaven of bread, **but of the teaching of the Pharisees and Sadducees.**

Matthew 21:33-46

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

"Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who PLANTED A VINEYARD AND PUT A WALL AROUND IT AND DUG A WINE PRESS IN IT, AND BUILT A TOWER, and rented it out to vine-growers and went on a journey.

"When the harvest time approached, **he** sent his slaves to the vine-growers to receive his produce. "The vine-growers took his slaves and beat one, and killed another, and stoned a third. "Again **he** sent another group of slaves larger than the first; (Continued...)

and they did the same thing to them. "But afterward **he** sent his **son** to them, saying, 'They will respect my **son**.'

"But when the vine-growers saw the **son**, they said among themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill **him** and seize his inheritance.' "They took **him**, and threw **him** out of the vineyard and killed **him**. "Therefore when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will **he** do to those vine-growers? (Continued...)

" They said to **Him**, "**He** will bring those wretches to a wretched end, and will rent out the vineyard to other vine-growers who will pay **him** the proceeds at the proper seasons." Jesus said to them, "Did you never read in the Scriptures, 'THE STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED, THIS BECAME THE CHIEF CORNER stone; THIS CAME ABOUT FROM THE LORD, AND IT IS MARVELOUS IN OUR EYES'? (Continued...)"

"Therefore I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people, producing the fruit of it. "And he who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; but on whomever it falls, it will scatter him like dust." **When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard His parables, they understood that He was speaking about them.** When they sought to seize Him, they feared the people, because they considered Him to be a prophet.

Matthew 23:13-39

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

"But **woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites,** because you shut off the kingdom of heaven from people; for you do not enter in yourselves, nor do you allow those who are entering to go in. [" **Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites,** because you devour widows' houses, and for a pretense you make long prayers; therefore you will receive greater condemnation. (Continued...)

] **"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites,**
because you travel around on sea and land to make one
proselyte; and when he becomes one, you make him
twice as much a son of hell as yourselves. "Woe to you,
blind guides, who say, 'Whoever swears by the temple,
that is nothing; but whoever swears by the gold of the
temple is obligated.' "You fools and blind men! Which is
more important, the gold or the temple that sanctified
the gold? (Continued...)

"And, 'Whoever swears by the altar, that is nothing, but whoever swears by the offering on it, he is obligated.'
"You blind men, which is more important, the offering, or the altar that sanctifies the offering? "Therefore, whoever swears by the altar, swears both by the altar and by everything on it. "And whoever swears by the temple, swears both by the temple and by Him who dwells within it. (Continued...)

"And whoever swears by heaven, swears both by the throne of God and by Him who sits upon it. **"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites!** For you tithe mint and dill and cummin, and have neglected the weightier provisions of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness; but these are the things you should have done without neglecting the others. "You blind guides, who strain out a gnat and swallow a camel! "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! (Continued...)

For you clean the outside of the cup and of the dish, but inside they are full of robbery and self-indulgence. "You blind Pharisee, first clean the inside of the cup and of the dish, so that the outside of it may become clean also.

"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which on the outside appear beautiful, but inside they are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness. (Continued...)

"So you, too, outwardly appear righteous to men, but inwardly you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness. **"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites!** For you build the tombs of the prophets and adorn the monuments of the righteous, and say, 'If we had been living in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partners with them in shedding the blood of the prophets.' "So you testify against yourselves, that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets. (Continued...)

"Fill up, then, the measure of the guilt of your fathers.
"You serpents, you brood of vipers, how will you escape
the sentence of hell? "Therefore, behold, I am sending
you prophets and wise men and scribes; (Continued...)

some of them you will kill and crucify, and some of them you will scourge in your synagogues, and persecute from city to city, so that upon you may fall the guilt of all the righteous blood shed on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah, the son of Berechiah, whom you murdered between the temple and the altar. "Truly I say to you, all these things will come upon this generation. (Continued...)

"Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, the way a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were unwilling. "Behold, your house is being left to you desolate! "For I say to you, from now on you will not see Me until you say, 'BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD!'"

Matthew 26:57-68

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

Those who had seized Jesus led Him away to Caiaphas, the high priest, where the scribes and the elders were gathered together. But Peter was following Him at a distance as far as the courtyard of the high priest, and entered in, and sat down with the officers to see the outcome. Now the chief priests and the whole Council kept trying to obtain false testimony against Jesus, so that they might put Him to death. (Continued...)

They did not find any, even though many false witnesses came forward. But later on two came forward, and said, "This man stated, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God and to rebuild it in three days.'" The high priest stood up and said to Him, "Do You not answer? What is it that these men are testifying against You?" But Jesus kept silent. And the high priest said to Him, "I adjure You by the living God, that You tell us whether You are the Christ, the Son of God.

(Continued...)

" Jesus said to him, "You have said it yourself; nevertheless I tell you, hereafter you will see THE SON OF MAN SITTING AT THE RIGHT HAND OF POWER, and COMING ON THE CLOUDS OF HEAVEN." Then the high priest tore his robes and said, "He has blasphemed! What further need do we have of witnesses? Behold, you have now heard the blasphemy; what do you think?" They answered, "He deserves death!" Then they spat in His face and beat Him with their fists; (Continued...)

and others slapped Him, and said, "Prophecy to us, You Christ; who is the one who hit You?"

Matthew 27:25

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

And all the people said, "His blood shall be on us **and on
our children!**"

Matthew 27:41

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

In the same way **the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking Him** and saying,

Matthew 3:7-9

(NASB, New American Standard Bible)

But when he saw **many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers,** who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? "Therefore bear fruit in keeping with repentance; and do not suppose that you can say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham for our father'; for I say to you that from these stones God is able to raise up children to Abraham.