

# something's wrong

## LESSON 2 Skit

### Characters:

**CAIAPHAS**, the high priest  
**PRIEST**



**Scene** *The high priest's office at the Temple in Jerusalem. CAIAPHAS and PRIEST have just heard that Jesus is alive.*

**CAIAPHAS:** He's alive?

**PRIEST:** *(Disbelieving.)* He's ALIVE?

**CAIAPHAS:** *(Angrily.)* The nonsense I feared is coming to pass. Didn't we go to Pilate? Didn't we say "Remember that deceiver you put on a cross? He said He would rise again in three days. Put a guard around the tomb. Don't let His followers come and steal the body. If they do, they will go to the people and say—

**PRIEST:** *(Interrupts, angrily.)* "He's alive!"

**CAIAPHAS:** So what has happened? Those Roman soldiers slipped up! Somehow the body disappeared. It's not there! I checked myself. And now, do you know what will happen? His disciples will go around proclaiming—

**PRIEST:** *(Interrupts.)* "He's alive!"

**CAIAPHAS:** This has been an expensive week for the treasury. First, we had to pay that traitor, Judas, thirty pieces of silver to betray Jesus. True, he gave the money back—

**PRIEST:** *(Insulted.)* He THREW it at us!

**CAIAPHAS:** But it was blood money. It isn't LAWFUL to put that kind of money back into the treasury. It would make the whole treasury UNCLEAN. So we used it to buy a potter's field for a graveyard where we could bury strangers.

**PRIEST:** Isn't there something in Zechariah about buying a potter's field—

**CAIAPHAS:** *(Angrily interrupting.)* Don't go quoting Scripture to ME! I know it better than you! We're not talking religion. We're talking politics.

**PRIEST:** Right! If people believe Jesus is the Messiah, that makes us His enemies. The people will revolt against us. There could be panic, confusion, unrest, rioting.

**CAIAPHAS:** We won't be able to stop it, because the people will no longer FEAR us. Rome will move in, and we'll lose our exalted positions.

**PRIEST:** We can't let THAT happen! We must stop any rumors!

**CAIAPHAS:** Which we've already started to do. *(Sighs.)* MORE money from the treasury. The guards were smart enough to come to us first to tell us the body was gone.

**PRIEST:** If they had gone directly to Pilate, he would have had them executed, according to Roman law.

**CAIAPHAS:** Which he SHOULD do. After ALL, how can you lose a dead body that's been put into a grave?

**PRIEST:** And had a huge stone rolled up against the opening.

**CAIAPHAS:** I don't care how it happened—I only care about what WILL happen. This MUST NOT affect my role as high priest! I must maintain my political presence in Jerusalem. I must KEEP my position of IMPORTANCE.

**PRIEST:** *(Thinking aloud.)* But if He IS alive—

**CAIAPHAS:** *(Angrily interrupting.)* Don't say that! We spent good money bribing those soldiers! They will admit to falling asleep on duty and letting the disciples steal the body.

**PRIEST:** *(Quietly, beginning to understand what really happened.)* Those soldiers wouldn't have fallen asleep. The disciples could not have moved that huge stone without waking them.

**CAIAPHAS:** *(Ignoring him.)* And it WASN'T cheap! A soldier who is risking execution won't lie without a large bribe. Never, never must anyone be allowed to say—

**PRIEST:** *(Interrupts, excitedly.)* He IS alive! *(PRIEST leaves quickly.)*

**CAIAPHAS:** Huh? Where'd he go? *(Shakes head.)* Everything is out of control!