vv. 69–75.   
  
This first denial was to  
all appearance rashly and almost inadvertently   
made, from a mere feeling of  
shame. Lücke suggests that Peter may  
have set himself among the servants of the  
High Priest *to bear out his denial*. The  
question, “*Art thou* **also** *one of this  
man’s disciples?*” (ver. 25,) as Luthardt  
remarks, implies that the other disciple  
had already been recognized as a follower  
of Jesus, and had escaped annoyance.

**19.**] This preliminary enquiry seems to  
have had for its object to induce the  
prisoner to criminate himself, and furnish  
matter of accusation before the Sanhedrim.

**of his disciples**] His party, or adherents,   
as the High Priest would understand   
His disciples to be; how many, and  
who they were, and with what object  
gathered together ;—and what His customary   
teaching of them had been. Of  
*these*, Jesus says nothing : compare vv. 8, 9.  
But He substitutes for them “ *the world*,”  
to which He had spoken plainly.

**20.**] **I**, emphatic: as if it had been said,  
**I am one, who...**

**plainly** (referring   
to the character of the *things  
said*): not *openly* (referring to the outward   
*circumstances under which* they  
were s#id), which the word will not  
hear.   
  
**the world** here is equivalent to  
“*all the Jews*,” or perhaps rather, “ *all  
who were there to hear*.”   
  
**in secret  
spake I nothing**] Stier thinks there was  
an allusion in these words to Isa. xlv. 19;  
xlviii. 16,—in the last of which places the  
Messiah is speaking.   
  
**21.**] See ch. v.  
31, which appears to have been a legal  
maxim.   
  
**behold**, THESE **know**] Our  
Lord appeals to persons *there present* in  
court, pointing at or otherwise designating  
them. The word “*they*” in the A.V.,  
makes it appear as if He meant “ *those  
which heard Me*.” Bengel. The “*officers*”  
mentioned in ch. vii. 46 may have been  
present : see next verse.   
  
**22.**] See  
Acts xxiii. 2.   
  
**one of the officers  
which stood by**] This was probably  
one of the band who took Jesus, and  
had brought Him hither. It is not  
quite certain whether the word here  
used implies a blow with the hand,  
or with a staff. They had staves, and  
perhaps thus used them: see note on  
Matt. xxvi. 67. This blow was a signal  
for the indignities which followed.  
  
  
**23.**] **bear witness** in a legal way.   
  
**but  
if well**] This latter supposition has the  
force of an assertion, that it *was* well.  
It has been often and well observed, that