

THIS WEEK'S STUDY: 1/10-11/2022 *Matthew Chapter 26:1-35*

PLEASE NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE STUDY!

MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY HAS RESUMED MEETING IN CLASSROOM HS107, CCCM, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!!

MEETING ID# - 87858644763 Passcode: 087484

Join Zoom Meeting -

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87858644763?pwd=b25tUzhkaTE0UzIrSnpkVmZEWGJVQT09>

Meeting ID: 878 5864 4763 - Passcode: 087484

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,87858644763# US (San Jose) +13462487799,,87858644763# US (Houston)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose); +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston); +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma); +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C); +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago); +1 929 436 2866 US (New York);

Meeting ID: 878 5864 4763

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87858644763?pwd=b25tUzhkaTE0UzIrSnpkVmZEWGJVQT09>

TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada).

THE TUESDAY MORNING STUDY HAS RESUMED MEETING IN THE FAMILY ROOM, CCCM, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!!

MEETING ID# - 85309150746 - Passcode: 715340

Join Zoom Meeting -

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85309150746?pwd=Tk5oVjN0TzdpWjE3UC9Oam05a21uQT09>

Meeting ID: 853 0915 0746 - Passcode: 715340

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,85309150746# US (San Jose) +12532158782,,85309150746# US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose); +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma); +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston); +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C); +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago); +1 929 436 2866 US (New York);

Meeting ID: 853 0915 0746

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85309150746?pwd=Tk5oVjN0TzdpWjE3UC9Oam05a21uQT09>

Phil Twente ptwente@gmail.com cell 714 425 9221 For Audio & notes from previous studies - www.ptwente.com

OPENING PRAYER

Matthew Chapter 26

The Plot to Kill Jesus - (vs. 1-5); The Anointing at Bethany – (vs. 6-13); Judas Agrees to Betray Jesus - (vs. 14-16); Jesus Celebrates Passover with His Disciples – (vs. 17-25); Jesus Institutes the Lord's Supper - (vs. 26-30); Jesus Predicts Peter's Denial – (vs. 31-35); The Prayer in the Garden - (vs. 36-46); Betrayal and Arrest in Gethsemane – (vs. 47-56); Jesus Faces the Sanhedrin - (vs. 57-68); Peter Denies Jesus, and Weeps Bitterly - (vs. 69-75).

- **Jesus has just concluded the Olivet Discourse**, with His disciples on the mount of Olives. Jesus' study was prompted by the prediction that He made concerning the destruction of the temple. There would not be one stone left standing upon another. The disciples wanted to know when that was going to happen and

what would be the signs of His coming and the end of the world. In chapters 24-25, Jesus gave the signs of His coming, the end of the world. Then, He gave a series of parables emphasizing the importance of our being ready because He is going to be coming when He is not expected. Thus, parables that dealt with the importance of being ready and the importance of watching, being alert. Now chapter twenty-six,

The Plot to Kill Jesus

Mat 26:1 Now it came to pass, when Jesus had finished all these sayings, that He said to His disciples,

- ***These sayings - That would be the discourse on the Mount of Olives*** concerning the prophecies of His coming and the parables that related to that coming.

Mat 26:2 "You know that after two days is the Passover, and the Son of Man will be delivered up to be crucified."

- **This Olivet discourse is thought to have taken place on Tuesday.** Sunday, the triumphant entry, was on the tenth of the month of Nisan, equivalent to April 6, 32 AD, on our calendar. On the tenth day of the month of Nisan, the first month of the Jewish year, they selected the lamb for the Passover offering. It is interesting and fitting that it was on the tenth that Jesus presented Himself as the Lamb of God to take away the sins of the world. On the fourteenth day was the day of Passover.
- **The Feast of the Passover,** in which they commemorated the deliverance out of Egypt, the final plague, the death of the firstborn. They were spared the disaster of that plague by the blood of the lamb that was placed upon the doorposts and the lintel of the house. On the fifteenth of Nisan, although it appears the Jews had combined these two days into one, began the Feast of Unleavened Bread which was a seven-day feast in which they ate only unleavened bread. They would not eat any bread with any leaven in it, the rising elements. The fifteenth, beginning the Feast of Unleavened Bread was a seven-day feast. The first day and the last day of the feast of unleavened bread were holy days or sabbath days. They were to be observed as a sabbath day, a day that was holy unto the Lord, the first and the last day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread.
- **Delivered up to be crucified.** There is no mention here of His resurrection on the third day, maybe the only reference to the crucifixion without the inclusion of His coming resurrection. This is probably due to focus here completely upon the crucifixion as a fulfillment of the Passover. Jesus' death on the cross was and is the fulfillment of the Passover Feast. Jesus is now fulfilling that Feast in His crucifixion. He will die on that date, because God is sovereign, regardless of what man plans. We will see in verse five the religious, leaders plotting His death, said it was not going to be on the Feast Day!

Mat 26:3 Then the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders of the people assembled at the palace of the high priest, who was called Caiaphas,

Mat 26:4 and plotted to take Jesus by trickery and kill Him.

- **In another portion of the city, they were planning, they were plotting,** they were seeking some way to get hold of Jesus. They had determined that He had to die.
- **At this time in the history of Israel, there were two high priests.** Annas was the high priest who was recognized by the Jews, but he came into disfavor with the Roman government. The Roman government appointed a second high priest by the name of Caiaphas, who was actually the son-in-law of Annas. There was this interesting situation in which there are two high priests. It is not a contradiction in the scripture. It actually took place, one a Roman appointee, the other one recognized by the Jewish people as the legitimate high priest. They gathered at the palace of the high priest whose name was Caiaphas,
- **They were planning! They were plotting to take Jesus by trickery and kill Him.** They were seeking some way to get hold of Jesus. They had determined that He had to die!
- **We need to look at the hideous deeds of religious men** and be careful, as Christians, not to be guilty of the most heinous things in history as they were here in plotting by trickery to kill Jesus.

Mat 26:5 But they said, "Not during the feast, lest there be an uproar among the people."

- **They are now setting their plot.** We have to kill Him but let us not do it on the feast day. We do not want an uproar among the people. But they were not in control. God was in control. It was ordained by God that He should be crucified on the day of the Passover feast because He was the true sacrificial Lamb whose blood keeps us from death.
- **That whole experience in Egypt was only a foreshadowing of Jesus Christ.** When they took the lamb, killed the lamb, and put the blood upon the doorposts of the house. When the Lord passed through the land of Egypt that night, He said, Wherever I see the blood on the doorposts of the house, I will pass by that house, the firstborn will be spared.

- **Here is the developing of the type of Jesus, the Lamb of God who would be slain for the sins** of the world. The blood of Jesus Christ upon our lives, spiritually speaking, causes us to be freed from the judgment of death for our sins. This was all the foreshadowing of Jesus Christ. Thus, it was important that the fulfillment take place on the day in which they celebrated the Passover. It was not by accident that Jesus was crucified on the day of the Passover because He is our Passover Lamb! He is the One who has freed us from the penalty of death for our sins!
- **In the same manner, the Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples on the feast Day of Pentecost.** Pentecost (*The Feast of Weeks, Shavuot*, to the Jews) was the feast in which they celebrated the first fruits of the great harvest. They would set out a corner of the field. They would cut the wheat. They would bind it into sheaves and bring it in, offering a wave offering with these sheaves of wheat before the Lord. These would be offered unto God as the firstfruits. We have a great harvest out here and these are the firstfruits we offer to God.
- **It was appropriate and right that the Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples** and the church was born on the Day of Pentecost and some 3,000 people were saved. They were the firstfruits of the great harvest that continues to the present time, as the Holy Spirit is still at work in the world, in hearts and lives of men and women. That is why so many people believe that when the Lord comes again to establish His kingdom, that it will take place during the Feast of Tabernacles because it was the feast in which they celebrated twofold. First, God's preservation of their fathers through the forty years of wandering in the wilderness. Secondly, His keeping of the promise and bringing them into the land that He had promised unto their father Abraham. But it may take place during the Feast of Tabernacles because that was the third of the three major feasts and the one has yet not had its New Testament fulfillment. That is still cast in the shadow of things of come and that coming of the kingdom is yet to come. So, that is yet future.
- **They had determined not on the feast day.** They want him to be destroyed. They want to put Him to death. The one thing they are trying to work out, is not have Him to die on the day of the Passover Feast. That is the only thing for which they are aiming. But, we clearly will see, that Jesus was the One in control. They were trying to control the situation, but Jesus was in control all the way. He had said, "No man takes My life from Me. I give My life." Jesus was in control though they sought to be in control. He took it out of their hands because it was necessary for the fulfillment of the type that He be crucified on the Day of the Passover. He will die on the day of Passover!
- **God is in control!** They were not! Jesus will be killed on the Passover, just as God had determined and had prophesied! God is in control of human history. He is in control of our lives! God rules overall and He over rules all, for His purposes!

Jesus Anointed at Bethany

Mat 26:6 *And when Jesus was* (being in, not necessarily a chronological sequence) *in Bethany at the house of Simon the leper,*

- **The other gospels tell us that at this feast, there was Mary and Martha.** In fact, Martha was helping to serve at this feast, which was so typical of Martha. Where would you expect her to be? That is just her nature. She was serving. It was in the house of Simon the leper. We are told that Lazarus was also at the feast, sitting at the table. Many people were just coming in and out just to look at Lazarus because he had been dead and buried for four days. Of course, he was brought back to life, so he was a curiosity, sort of a spectacle. People were coming in and out just to look at the guy who had been buried for four days and was eating now at this feast in the house of Simon the leper. As we can see from this account, having friends, true friends, is very important. Even though almost all of the religious leaders are plotting to kill Him, here we see Jesus spending nights, not in Jerusalem, but with His friends in Bethany!

Mat 26:7 *a woman came to Him having an alabaster flask of very costly fragrant oil, and she poured it on His head as He sat at the table.*

- **The other gospels name the woman. John tells us it was Mary, the sister of Martha.** Again, so typical of Mary. It is interesting how they just, their temperaments, there they are, right according to their nature. Mary was the worshipper. She was the one that was sitting always at the feet of Jesus, just worshipping, adoring, listening. Martha was the busy one, always getting things ready, making sure the little sandwiches were all set, and the iced tea was ready. It was just typical of the sisters, and just the different temperament or nature of the sisters. So, "a woman came to Him," Mary.

Mat 26:8 *But when His disciples saw it, they were indignant, saying, "Why this waste (apōleia – perdition, same word as used in John 17, as Jesus describes Judas as the Son of Perdition)?"*

- **This was very precious, very costly perfume.** Those who have studied this spikenard believe it valued at about one year's wages! It could have been sold for several thousand dollars. Very costly! But Mary in

this moment of adoration and love, to give Jesus the very best that she had, just did not dab a little behind His ear, but just poured it on the head of Jesus! She just seems to be in her own world! She just lavishes this on Jesus!

- **Why this waste? Her precious gift was not so well received by the disciples.** John's gospel tells us that the one who really objected, the one who was most angry over this was Judas Iscariot. It was Judas who said, Why this waste? We could have sold this for several thousand dollars. We could have put the money in our treasury. But John gives us a little insight concerning Judas. He said Judas did not say this because he was really concerned with the poor. He said this because he was the one that was keeping the bag with the money, and he had been thieving out of it. So, we have a little insight into this.

Mat 26:9 For this fragrant oil might have been sold for much and given to the poor."

(Joh 12:3-5) Then Mary took a pound of very costly oil of spikenard, anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped His feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the oil. [4] But one of His disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, who would betray Him, said, [5] "Why was this fragrant oil not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?"

- **How sanctimonious hypocrites can sound** sometimes!

Mat 26:10 But when Jesus was aware of it, He said to them, "Why do you trouble the woman? For she has done a good work for Me.

- **Jesus commends her, saying she has done a good work for Me!** What she has done here was an act of worship toward the Lord. She wanted to do something good to Him. Some way to bless Him! In this entire scene, as the cross is approaching, this act of worship toward Him, just stands out because as you look at this whole thing, Jesus has just told them, that in two days I am going to be crucified. The disciples, the apostles, didn't even get it! Yet one person in that house got it! One person took seriously what He was saying, understanding the implications that were coming His way.
- **Mary of Bethany decided that she had an opportunity, right now to worship Him** in a way that she may never otherwise have again. She used the opportunity to then worship Him. Most likely, even when later He would have those nails driven through His hands and feet, hanging on the cross, still may have born that fragrance, that expression of her love. So, this beautiful, beautiful scene. When we are facing something very hard in our life, we know how hard it is to find it is to find someone who understands, who cares enough to even tries to understand. Here, Jesus sees that there is only one person who really gets it and really understands what He is facing, the pressure, the weight that He is facing! But she anoints Him and worships Him, in order to bless Him! She gave Him her best! Oh, what a question that poses for me, for us!
- **An important lesson comes out of this for us.** Sometimes our worshipping the Lord in a sacrificial way, causes people to look at how we are spending our lives as Christians in declaring that that kind of dedication to Him, that kind of worship to Him, is a sure way to waste your life. All too often, that attitude is, or even the verbalizing as it is here, can come from other Christians, from the body of Christ.
- **We need to test our hearts tonight.** Has there ever been a time in my Christian life when I have loved Him more! When you worshipped Him more than you do now! When you were sold out to Him more than you are now? That your worship was expressed as a sacrifice that you and I may not have known now for years? If that is the case, we are getting drawn into something that is very, very dangerous. Not just in the world, but in the body of Christ.
- **He is worthy of our worship!** He is worthy of all worship that we can extend to Him! There is not worship that is a waste! There is not anything that He does not deserve! Do you and I have a lukewarmness toward Him? Am I lukewarm right now? Am I just going along with the flow? There was a great statement by Leonard Ravenhill, saying where is the prophet who will move the prophets? That is the kind of Christian we need to be! A great Christian for the glory of God. A great worshipper of God, even among Christians. May we not be settling down into some low common denominator, certainly not at the end of the age!

Mat 26:11 For you have the poor with you always, but Me you do not have always.

- **Jesus said, You have the poor with you always.** You do not have Me always! She has done this for my burial!

Mat 26:12 For in pouring this fragrant oil on My body, she did it for My burial.

- **This is just a pre-burial perfuming.**

Mat 26:13 Assuredly, I say to you, wherever this gospel is preached in the whole world, what this woman has done will also be told as a memorial to her.

- **Jesus was right,** we have told you tonight as a memorial for Mary, that she was the one that did this act of love and devotion unto Jesus.

Judas to Betray Jesus

Mat 26:14 Then one of the twelve, called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests

- **With Judas we have another great contrast** to the expression of Mary. Judas Iscariot sees the devotion and love of Mary, possibly affirming in his mind that Jesus is indeed about to be crucified. It does not look like he is going to get a high, well-paid position in the new kingdom. Judas had been rebuffed. He was the treasurer of the group, holding the bag. He took care of the bills, but he had been thieving out of the bag. When the woman poured this precious, costly perfume on Jesus, he said, We should have not wasted it. Now, we know nothing that you give to Jesus is ever wasted! Why this waste? Nothing is ever wasted that is given to Jesus. But he had been rebuffed by Jesus. We have to give it to the poor. Judas Iscariot was upset. He was determined then he was going to still profit and make money off of Jesus. So, he went to the chief priests.

Mat 26:15 and said, "What are you willing to give me if I deliver Him to you?" And they counted out to him thirty pieces of silver.

*(Exo 21:32) If the ox gores a male or female servant, he shall give to their master **thirty shekels of silver**, and the ox shall be stoned.*

- **Thirty shekels of silver was the price of a slave** that had to be paid by the master of the ox, who gored a slave to death! That is the value that Judas put upon Jesus for the three- and one-half years that he had been with Jesus! How this speaks to us to warn us! What a warning for us, especially at it relates to the sin of covetousness, which is simply, the desire for more! When the desire for money, for material things, becomes more important to me than my relationship with God. Am I willing to sell Him out for some sum of money? That is covetousness, which is what our whole culture depends and thrives on. The worst thing is to judge my covetousness with that of those or the culture around me! To think I am okay, because I am doing a little bit better than them! Have we thought this through? What price, what conditions, in a weak or fearful moment, it might take for me to betray my Lord?

Mat 26:16 So from that time he sought opportunity to betray Him.

(Luk 22:3-6) Then Satan entered Judas, surnamed Iscariot, who was numbered among the twelve. [4] So he went his way and conferred with the chief priests and captains, how he might betray Him to them. [5] And they were glad and agreed to give him money. [6] So he promised and sought opportunity to betray Him to them in the absence of the multitude.

(Joh 17:12) While I was with them in the world, I kept them in Your name. Those whom You gave Me I have kept; and none of them is lost except the son of perdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled.

- **We see this prophesied in (Zec 11:12-13)** Then I said to them, "If it is agreeable to you, give me my wages; and if not, refrain." So they weighed out for my wages thirty pieces of silver. [13] And the LORD said to me, "Throw it to the potter"—that princely price they set on me. So I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw them into the house of the LORD for the potter. We know that later, Judas brought the money back, saying, I cannot take this, (Mat 27:4) saying, "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood." And they said, "What is that to us? You see to it!" So, he threw the money on the temple floor and went out and hanged himself!

The Passover with the Disciples

Mat 26:17 Now on the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying to Him, "Where do You want us to prepare for You to eat the Passover?"

(Num 28:16-17) 'On the fourteenth day of the first month is the Passover of the LORD. [17] And on the fifteenth day of this month is the feast; unleavened bread shall be eaten for seven days.

- **This will be the last anticipatory Passover. From now on it will be a memorial to the Lord's Supper.** After the Feast of the Passover, you had the Feast of the First Fruits, where the priest went into the temple, waved a sheaf of grain at the altar, looking forward to the harvest that would come, celebrating Pentecost. The first fruit was a token of that which was coming. (1Co 15:23) But each one in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, afterward those who are Christ's at His coming. He is rising on the third day, on the Feast of Firstfruits. You have the Feast of Passover, Unleavened Bread, and First Fruits, looking at His first coming. Fifty days later, Pentecost begins, which is the birth of the church. This is the age that we live in.
- **The last three feasts see His second coming.** The Feast of Trumpets, which we are looking forward to, in that it may be when the Rapture of the church is called. Then the Feast of Atonement, when the sin of the nation is paid for. Then the Feast of Booths, Succoth, where they remember how faithful God has been to them in all their journeys.

Mat 26:18 *And He said, "Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, 'The Teacher says, "My time is at hand; I will keep the Passover at your house with My disciples."*

Mat 26:19 *So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them; and they prepared the Passover. (Luk 22:15) Then He said to them, "With fervent desire I have desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer;*

- **Are we willing** to do the Master's errands? We want to do the big things for Jesus but are we willing to go here, go there? Set the table? Wash the dishes? When you see where the Upper Room is, make ready for the Passover. All of the elements for the Passover feast, the wine, the bread, the lamb, the bitter herbs and all that was necessary for the Passover feast.

Mat 26:20 *When evening had come, He sat (reclined) down with the twelve.*

- **Jewish days begin at sundown.** Their sabbath, which of course is the seventh day, Saturday, begins at sundown Friday and goes until sundown Saturday. Friday afternoon in Israel, everything shuts down. By the time the sun goes down, there are no more taxicabs driven by Israeli drivers. A quietness comes over the whole city. The stores are closed as they observe the sabbath day. Saturday when the sun goes down, the streets are full, people are partying. The sabbath is over! They all go downtown, just having a great celebration of the sabbath being over, So their days begin at the evening of the day before, so to speak.
- **The evening of the fourteenth day of the month would have been** on Wednesday evening. The Passover day would have been the fourteenth on Thursday during the day, would have ended at sundown on Thursday. The next day would be the great sabbath of the unleavened bread, the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread which would begin at sundown on Thursday. "So, when the even was come, he sat down with the twelve."
- **They start the day, at evening,** as they found in the book of Genesis. In the seven days of creation, you read, (*Gen 1:5*) *God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. So the evening and the morning were the first day.* Genesis started the day with the evening and morning. That is why they start the day on the evening before. Their day goes from approximately six o'clock to six o'clock, from one evening to another. We start our day at midnight. They start it at six o'clock approximately in the evening. It varies with the sun, when the sun goes down, it is the evening. When three stars can be seen, that is the beginning of the next day.

Mat 26:21 *Now as they were eating, He said, "Assuredly, I say to you, one of you will betray Me."*

Mat 26:22 *And they were exceedingly sorrowful, and each of them began to say to Him, "Lord, is it I?"*

- **Is it I?** That question seems to indicate their recognition that they didn't even know their own hearts. I do not know what is in the capacity of my heart to do. I am certain that we are discovering that the capacity for evil in the heart of a man is far greater than anything we ever dreamed. The horrible killings throughout the world are things that are far beyond our capacity to even dream or think. With so many of the brutal murders that are happening here in the United States, it is hard to imagine a person's mind that is so distorted that he could do these kind of things. The capacity for evil. It seems they didn't even know what their own capacities for evil might be.
- **Lord, is it I?** David said, Lord, you know me. You know all about me. Then he said, (*Psa 139:23-24*) *Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me, and know my anxieties; [24] And see if there is any wicked way in me And lead me in the way everlasting.* Lord you know me! I do not know myself. For the prophet said, (*Jer 17:9*) *"The heart is deceitful above all things, And desperately wicked; Who can know it?"* So, the disciples began to ask, *Lord, is it I?*

Mat 26:23 *He answered and said, "He who dipped his hand with Me in the dish will betray Me.*

- **They usually had a dish of sauces and soup.** They would take their bread. As they would eat, they just take the loaf of bread and pull some off. They would dip it in the soup or in the sauces, and then eat it. Jesus is saying, *He who dipped his hand with Me in the dish will betray Me.*

Mat 26:24 *The Son of Man indeed goes just as it is written of Him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been good for that man if he had not been born."*

- **In other words, it is prophecy!** It has to be. But though it is prophesied and woe to the man who fulfills it! Woe to who betrays! Jesus said, *It would have been good for that man if he had not been born* Jesus



says it would have never existed, never been born, than to spend eternity apart from the LORD in outer darkness.

Mat 26:25 *Then Judas, who was betraying Him, answered and said, "Rabbi, is it I?" He said to him, "You have said it." (Joh 13:25-30) Then, leaning back on Jesus' breast, he said to Him, "Lord, who is it?" [26] Jesus answered, "It is he to whom I shall give a piece of bread when I have dipped it." And having dipped the bread, He gave it to Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon. [27] Now after the piece of bread, **Satan entered him**. Then Jesus said to him, "What you do, do quickly." [28] But no one at the table knew for what reason He said this to him. [29] For some thought, because Judas had the money box, that Jesus had said to him, "Buy those things we need for the feast," or that he should give something to the poor. [30] Having received the piece of bread, he then went out immediately. And it was night.*

- **The rest of the apostles called Jesus, LORD. Judas, alone, calls Him Rabbi or teacher.** That is the only value he placed on Jesus at this point in time! What value do I place on my Lord?

Institution of the Lord's Supper

Mat 26:26 *And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said, "Take, eat; this is My body."*

Mat 26:27 *Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you."*

- **With the first cup, they would toast the host or the father, say a prayer.** They would take the first cup together. Then there was a second cup that was taken. After that cup would follow bitter herbs and other things. Then the Passover meal itself was eaten. Then the third cup, which is called the cup of blessing, is the one Jesus took, **(1Co 10:16)** *The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?* That is the third cup of the Passover meal. Just consider the unimaginable, that as Jesus is breaking the bread and taking the cup, giving thanks, that He knows exactly what is ahead for Him in the crucifixion, within a matter of hours!

Mat 26:28 *For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.*

- **Jesus is now giving a new understanding of the Passover feast.** I am the bread of life! This bread is My body broken for you. He who eats of Me shall never hunger again! This cup, it is a new covenant that God is making with man. It is in my blood, which is shed for the remission of sins!
- **The old covenant that God made with Israel was to put the blood of the lamb** on the doorposts. The angel of death will pass by! The firstborn will be spared. This now is the new covenant. It is in the blood of Jesus Christ, which if applied to our hearts in that spiritual sense, we will not die for our sins! It is shed for many for the remission of their sins! **(Lev 17:14)** *for it is the life of all flesh. Its blood sustains its life. Therefore I said to the children of Israel, 'You shall not eat the blood of any flesh, for the life of all flesh is its blood. Whoever eats it shall be cut off.*
- **The new covenant is totally one sided, in the sense that it is based** entirely on what Jesus Christ has done for us. Salvation is not based, at all, on our works or any contribution we make or could ever make. When Jesus cried out on the cross, *Tetelestai*, **"It is finished!"** It was finished, not begun, but finished! This is why we can look at our salvation and see that it is sure! It can't fail, because of my tendency to fail, but it is based totally on what Jesus Christ, my Savior had done. And nothing, no nothing, can change what He had done of you and for me!

Mat 26:29 *But I say to you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father's kingdom."*

- **Until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father's kingdom.** Jesus is seeing past the cross. He says that we are going to drink this cup again together, anew, in the Father's kingdom. Jesus is looking all the way down through the ages, to that day. How remarkable! We are going to drink it in His kingdom. This new wine. How wonderful that will be! It will be of joy and not of drunkenness.

Jesus Foretells Peter's Denial

Mat 26:30 *And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.*

- **And when they had sung a hymn.** It would be wonderful if there would have been a recordings in those days. I would love to have heard Jesus sing. I imagine he had a strong, robust voice. We know that the hymn that he sang was one of the Hallel songs, *Psalms 113-118*. Traditionally, Psalm 118 is sung at the end of the Passover. Wouldn't it be great to hear Jesus and the eleven disciples singing? **(Psa 118:27)** *God is the LORD, And He has given us light; Bind the sacrifice with cords to the horns of the*

altar.

- **We wonder what His voice was like!** We know He did not sing out of tune. Did He sing with tears in His eyes as this took place, as He sung the songs of ascent, the Hallel Psalms? Tonight, He is not singing, but He is at the right hand of the Father, where (*Heb 7:25b*) *He always lives to make intercession for them.* He is praying for us tonight! He endured the cross (*Heb 12:2b*) *despising the shame and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.* He saw His Father's kingdom. He saw what was coming. He saw you and me sitting here this evening. He saw that lamb turning on a cross at the Passover dinner. The sacrifices in the Old Testament were not just bled out. They were burned!
- **He know that it was His death being seen.** Even the fire and the three hours of darkness, when the wrath of Almighty God was poured out. (*Psa 22:1*) *My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me? Why are You so far from helping Me, And from the words of My groaning?* That in the ages to come, we would still be learning. Because when He came out of the darkness, He said :"*Tetelestai!!*" It is finished! Before He died physically, something was finished, eternally! It was after that, He gave up the ghost! (*Luk 23:46*) *And when Jesus had cried out with a loud voice, He said, "Father, 'INTO YOUR HANDS I COMMIT MY SPIRIT.' " Having said this, He breathed His last. Here we sit tonight! We have hope! We see the world unravelling. Maybe we see His word and seek His presence, a little different than ever before!*
- **They went out to the Mount of Olives.** There was a place at the Mount of Olives that Jesus resorted to many times with His disciples. It was just sort of a favorite spot. A quiet place, away from the hubbub of the city of Jerusalem, outside the walls, towards Bethany, but just a quiet spot where He can get alone with His disciples. They went out, probably where He had given them the discourse couple of days earlier.

Mat 26:31 Then Jesus said to them, "All of you will be made to stumble because of Me this night, for it is written: 'I WILL STRIKE THE SHEPHERD, AND THE SHEEP OF THE FLOCK WILL BE SCATTERED.'

- **For it is written!** We see this over and over. Jesus was more interested in seeing prophecy being fulfilled than He was in saving His own life! What respect for the word of God! These events must take place! "*This is written*", so it has to happen this way! Just think about that! What is my level of respect?
- **The prophecy of Zechariah.** Jesus is saying, All of you are going to be made to stumble. (*Zec 13:7*) *"Awake, O sword, against My Shepherd, Against the Man who is My Companion," Says the LORD of hosts. "Strike the Shepherd, And the sheep will be scattered; Then I will turn My hand against the little ones.*

Mat 26:32 But after I have been raised, I will go before you (also descriptive of a shepherd) to Galilee."

Mat 26:33 Peter answered and said to Him, "Even if all are made to stumble because of You, I will never be made to stumble."

- **Pride! It is sort of putting himself above the others.** There was a rivalry and a dispute going on among the disciples right up to the time of the death of Christ. They were disputing among themselves as who would be the greatest in the kingdom of God. It was an argument that was constantly going on. Jesus was trying to teach them that the path of greatness was by taking the path of servanthood. "He that would be chief among you, let him become the servant of all." Now the Gentiles love to exercise lordship over others. But it shall not be so among you. So, when Peter said, really arguing with Zechariah, Lord, though they all may be offended, I will not. He was vying for that top spot. They may, not me! *I will never be offended!*

Mat 26:34 Jesus said to him, "Assuredly, I say to you that this night, before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times."

Mat 26:35 Peter said to Him, "Even if I have to die with You, I will not deny You!" And so said all the disciples.

- **They all said, no, no, no, never, never, we would not do that!** Notice that Peter is boasting of himself! He is confident in himself! Lord, I would never deny You! Notice he is also arguing with the Lord, with the scriptures, *smite the shepherd and the sheep will be scattered.* He is arguing with that, Lord, I would never be offended. I would never deny You. Arguing with Jesus. Boasting in his confidence, in his own flesh.
- **In (Joh 13:37-38) Peter said to Him, "Lord, why can I not follow You now? I will lay down my life for Your sake." [38] Jesus answered him, "Will you lay down your life for My sake? Most assuredly, I say to you, the rooster shall not crow till you have denied Me three times.**

- **We then see John, chapters 14-17 following this event.** Amazingly then, putting these two ideas together, (*Joh 14:1*) "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me!" (*Joh 18:1*) When Jesus had spoken these words, He went out with His disciples over the Brook Kidron, where there was a garden, which He and His disciples entered.
- **What a powerful and valuable lesson for us!** Out of pride, Peter was indicating he was superior to the other disciples as well as being superior to what was prophesied by Zechariah and what is now being said to him by the Lord. *Assuredly, I say to you that this night, before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times!"*
- **What a great example for self-examination! (1Co 10:11-12)** Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come. [12] Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall.
- **How do we, I, see myself?** How confident am I in my own fleshly strength? Will I deny Him? Do I think I am better than others? That though they may deny Him. I will never deny Him.

KEY PRINCIPLES - Matthew Chapter 20

The Plot to Kill Jesus:

- **We need to be careful, as Christians, not to be guilty such heinous things,** as they were, in plotting by trickery to kill Jesus. They had determined not on the feast day, being more worried over Roman reprisal than murdering the Son of God. But Jesus, not man, was the One in control all the way. He will be killed on the Passover, as God had determined and prophesied! God is in control of human history and our lives! He rules overall, and over rules all, for His purposes!

The Anointing at Bethany:

- **The anointing was by Mary, the sister of Martha.** She was the worshipper, the one sitting always at the feet of Jesus, just worshipping, adoring, listening.
- **This was very precious, very costly perfume.** It's value was equivalent to a worker's annual wage! Very costly! But Mary in this moment of adoration and love, to give Jesus the very best that she had, just did not dab a little behind His ear, but just poured it on the head of Jesus! She just lavishes this on Jesus, wanting to give **Him her very best**, having **an opportunity, right now to worship Him** in a way that she may never otherwise have again.
- **We need to test our hearts tonight.** Has there ever been a time in my Christian life when I have loved Him more! When you worshipped Him and more sold out to Him, than you are now? If that is the case, we are getting drawn into something that is very, very dangerous.
- **He is worthy of our worship!** He is worthy of all worship that we can extend to Him! There is not worship that is a waste! There is not anything that He does not deserve! Do we have a lukewarmness toward Him? Am I lukewarm right now? Am I just going along with the flow?
- **Mary gave Him her best! Oh, what a question that poses for me, for us!**

Judas Agrees to Betray Jesus:

- **With Judas we have another great contrast** to the expression of Mary. Judas Iscariot sees the devotion and love of Mary, possibly affirming in his mind that Jesus is indeed about to be crucified. It does not look like he is going to get a high, well-paid position in the new kingdom. Judas had been rebuffed. He was the treasurer of the group, holding the bag. Judas Iscariot was upset. He was determined then he was going to still profit and make money off of Jesus. So, he went to the chief priests.
- **Thirty shekels of silver was the value** that Judas put upon Jesus for the time he had been Him was that of a slave gored to death by an ox! What a warning for us, especially at it relates to the sin of covetousness, which is simply, the desire for more! Am I willing to sell Him out for some sum of money? Have we thought this through? What price, what conditions, in a weak or fearful moment, it might take for me to betray my Lord?

Jesus Celebrates Passover with His Disciples:

- **This will be the last anticipatory Passover. From now on it will be a memorial to the Lord's Supper.**
- **Are we willing** to do the Master's errands? We want to do the big things for Jesus but are we willing to go here, go there? Set the table? Wash the dishes?
- **Assuredly one of you will betray Me! Is it I, indicating the disciples' not** even knowing their own hearts? What is the capacity for evil of my heart? *Lord, is it I?* David said, "Search me and know my heart, try me and know my thoughts, see if there's some way of wickedness in me."
- **The betrayal is prophesized!** It has to happen. But though it is prophesied, woe to the man who fulfills it! Jesus said, it would be better to have never existed, never been born, than to spend eternity apart from the LORD in outer darkness.

- **The rest of the apostles called Jesus, LORD. Judas, alone, calls Him Rabbi or teacher.** That is the only value he placed on Jesus at this point in time! What value do I place on my Lord?

Jesus Institutes the Lord's Supper:

- **Consider the unimaginable**, that as Jesus is breaking the bread and taking the cup, giving thanks, that He knows exactly what is ahead for Him in the crucifixion, within a matter of hours!
- **For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins. Jesus is now giving a new understanding of the Passover feast.** I am the bread of life! This bread is My body broken for you. He who eats of Me shall never hunger again! This cup, it is a new covenant that God is making with man. It is in my blood which is shed for the remission of sins!
- **The old covenant that God made with Israel was to put the blood of the lamb** on the doorposts. The angel of death will pass by! The firstborn will be spared. This now is the new covenant. It is in the blood of Jesus Christ, which if applied to our hearts in that spiritual sense, we will not die for our sins! It is shed for many for the remission of their sins!
- **The new covenant is totally one sided, based** entirely on what Jesus Christ has done for us. Salvation is not based, at all, on our works or any contribution we make or could ever make. When Jesus cried out on the cross, *Tetelestai*, **"It is finished!"** It was finished, not begun, but finished! This is why we can look at our salvation and see that it is sure! It can't fail, because of my tendency to fail, but it is based totally on what Jesus Christ, my Savior has done! Nothing, no nothing, can change what He had done of you and for me!
- **Until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father's kingdom."** Jesus is seeing past the cross. He says that we are going to drink this cup again together, anew, in the Father's kingdom. How remarkable! His new wine. How wonderful that will be! What a time of joy!

Jesus Predicts Peter's Denial:

- **They all said, no, no, no, never, never, we would not do that!** Notice how Peter is boasting of himself, in his self-confidence. How confident, He is! Lord, I would never deny You! He is comparing himself to and over the other disciples - *Even if all are made to stumble because of You, I will never be made to stumble."*
- **What a powerful and valuable lesson for us! Out of pride**, Peter was indicating he was superior to the other disciples as well as being superior to what was prophesied by Zechariah, and what is now being said to him by the Lord. *Assuredly, I say to you that this night, before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times!"*
- **How do I, see myself?** How confident am I in my own fleshly strength? Will I deny Him? Do I think I am better than others? That though they may deny Him. I will never deny Him. Where do I stand?
- Here we sit tonight! We have hope! We see the world unravelling. Maybe we see His word and seek His presence, a little different than ever before! *Lead me to Calvary!*

CLOSING SONG:

LEAD ME TO CALVARY Jeannie Hussey; William J. Kirkpatrick (2:10)

King of my life, I crown Thee now, Thine shall the glory be; Lest I forget Thy thorn-crowned brow, Lead me to Calvary.

Refrain: Lest I forget Gethsemane, Lest I forget Thine agony; Lest I forget Thy love for me, Lead me to Calvary.

Show me the tomb where Thou wast laid, Tenderly mourned and wept; Angels in robes of light arrayed Guarded Thee whilst Thou slept. (Refrain)

Let me like Mary, through the gloom, Come with a gift to Thee; Show to me now the empty tomb, Lead me to Calvary. (Refrain)

CLOSING PRAYER:

Read Matthew Chapter 26:36-75 for next week!