

## **Life and Ministry of Jesus Christ**

### **Final Preparations by Judas and Jesus**

Last time...the anointing of Jesus by Mary of Bethany

Mary believed what Jesus had said (He would be betrayed to be crucified this Passover)  
rather than what she understood or wanted to believe

Judas Iscariot, the thief, attacked Mary for wasting such a valuable item that could have  
been sold to help the poor i.e. enriched himself

Jesus rebuked Judas and defended Mary, saying she did it for His burial and that it would  
be a memorial of her wherever the Gospel is preached

This time...final preparations are made by Judas and Jesus

We will be in Mark 14, Matt 26, and Luke 22

### **Final Preparations of Judas Iscariot**

#### **Mark 14:10-11**

v10-11 Judas...went...to betray...glad...conveniently:

Is this as astounding to you as it is to me?!

Was not Judas Iscariot an eyewitness to Jesus

- raising 3 people from the dead, including Lazarus  
who was sitting with Jesus right there in the house of Simon the  
leper where Mary of Bethany anointed Jesus?!
- healing an untold multitude of people of blindness, leprosy and  
every form of disease and illness and infirmity?!
- having absolute command over demons?!
- teaching with power and authority, unlike the scribes?!
- claiming to be the Son of God, one with the Father?!

Did not Judas receive power from Jesus to cast out demons and to heal  
every manner of sickness and disease (Matt 10:1)?!

Was not Judas there when Jesus said Matt 26:2?!

And now, he goes off to do precisely that!

Rebuked by Jesus for his indignation against Mary of Bethany, Judas went to the  
chief priests...just as Jesus had said

The chief priests, looking for a way to seize and kill Jesus, are very happy to have gained an insider as an accomplice!  
They promised to give him the desire of his thieving heart – money

Jesus taught/warned about the love of money

- Matt 6:24     No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.
- Luke 12:15     Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth
- Luke 12:21     he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.
- Luke 12:34     For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Judas Iscariot did not receive the Lord's teaching/warning about money  
Now, having sold his services to fellow children of the devil, Judas seeks for a way to conveniently betray the Lord Jesus to them!

The plan of God, the plan of Satan, and the plan of wicked men are parallel in action but diametrically opposed in motive

God's motive: love (John 3:16)

Satan's and wicked men's motive: death of the Lord's anointed

The wills of God, Satan, AND wicked men are all being done

But Who is in control?

Satan thinks he is

God is, He is always in absolute control; God has Satan on a leash.

Let's go to Matthew's account

### **Matt 26:14-16**

v14-16     What will ye give me...covenanted...30 pieces of silver:

The thief (John 12:6) is looking for an offer of money from the religious leaders to betray the One

- he has "followed" for approx. 3 years
- who has prophetically foretold of his very act

It is as if the rebuke by Jesus for his "wasteful" indignation of Mary and her anointing, which Jesus said was for His burial, was more than he could take

That's it! I'm out!

But for certain, we know that Judas did not believe what Jesus said  
John 6:64 **But there are some of you that believe not.** For Jesus knew  
from the beginning who they were that believed not, and  
who should betray Him.

Jesus knows who are His and who are not His

So Judas went looking for worldly wealth in exchange for all Jesus offered...  
the kingdom of God, next worldly wealth, peace/joy/truth in this world...  
and settled for 30 pieces of silver, the price of a common slave...  
just as the Word of God foretold he would (Zech 11:12-13)

Judas is now an enemy agent, a spy, a traitor...leaven in the camp of Jesus  
(that must/will be removed to keep the Feast of Unleavened Bread)  
Judas is NOT in one accord with Jesus Christ, he is in one accord with the  
enemies of Jesus Christ, who also

- were thieves
- were serving self and enriching self in the Lord's ministry

The last piece of information is in Luke's account

### **Luke 22:3-6**

v3 Then entered Satan into Judas:  
Chronologically after the anointing of Jesus by Mary of Bethany  
(not spoken of in this Gospel),  
Satan enters Judas Iscariot, the thief and betrayer

Skipping just hours ahead in the chronology...John 13:21-27

Judas is not Satan incarnate

Satan entered a willing and complicit tool in Judas

Satan entered Judas twice

1. After the anointing of Jesus, to get a "contract to betray"
2. After Jesus washes the feet of the 12, having been  
dismissed (leaven purged) and having found a convenient  
time to betray Jesus

Jesus most certainly knew on both occasions when Satan entered Judas Iscariot

v4-6 communed with:

In a willful and deliberate act (vs “the devil made me do it”), Judas made a contract with the chief priests to surrender Jesus to them

They promised (Mark 14:11)

He promised (v6)

Judas is now a co-conspirator with the enemies of Jesus and is complicit in the crimes that follow

One of the terms of the contract: in the absence of the multitude (v2)

Set in motion now is

- the greatest injustice in the history of mankind
- the greatest demonstration of love in the history of mankind
- the darkest day in the history of mankind

## **Final Preparations of Jesus Christ**

### **Matt 26:17-19**

v17 the first day...for thee to eat:

The first day of the 7-day Feast of Unleavened Bread is...Passover

The disciples ask Jesus where He (and they with Him) will eat the Passover (lamb)

To eat is to ingest food to fuel the body

In Scripture, “eat” is also used figuratively –

- to ingest the Word of God to fuel the spirit
- to believe the Word of God

Ezk 3:1-10 eat this roll and speak My words to Israel;  
sweet as honey

John 6:27-58 I am the bread of life; eat My flesh, drink My blood;  
the words I speak are spirit and life

Rev 10:8-11 take and eat the little open book; made belly bitter  
and mouth sweet as honey

This Passover will be the Substance of the shadow of the Feast of Passover;

Henceforth, “to eat the Passover” has a radically deeper meaning.

Rom 10:4

v18    My time is at hand, I will keep:  
        Jesus tells His disciples to

- go into the city...from Bethany (supper in the house of Simon the leper where Mary of Bethany anointed His body/head and feet for burial) to Jerusalem on the other side of the Kidron Valley, passing thru the Garden of Gethsemane
- to such a man..."at your house", a homeowner
- say...The Master says i.e. speak My words
  - My time is at hand/near  
Up to this point, "My time/hour is not yet come."

1<sup>st</sup> year of ministry

John 2:1-5    1<sup>st</sup> miracle at beginning of ministry

Luke 4:16-30    1<sup>st</sup> rejection at Nazareth

3<sup>rd</sup> year of ministry (year of opposition)

John 7:1-8    Feast of Tabernacles

John 7:28-30    after teaching

John 7:37-44    last day of the feast

John 8:19-20    in the Treasury

John 8:58-59    took stones, thru midst

John 10:22-40    Feast of Dedication escape

Now it is His time; He has been anointed for His burial.

Q: Who is ruling over these events?!

- I will keep the Passover

Matt 5:17

John 1:29

Gen 22:1-14    Jehovah-jirah, the Lord will provide

Jesus will in fact provide for and keep the Lord's Passover,  
in a way unthinkable to His disciples, to fulfill this  
appointment on God's calendar

v19    did as Jesus had appointed them:

        The disciples did as Jesus had appointed/arranged/directed

        Jesus is directing events...on earth

        Jesus came to earth to do the will of the Father

        The Father is directing events...from heaven

## **Mark 14:12-16**

v12-13 two of His disciples:...bearing a pitcher of water:

In Mark's account we learn

- Jesus sent 2 disciples to prepare the Passover for Him and the 12
- a man that will meet them will be carrying a pitcher of water  
Men did NOT carry water in that culture  
Either women or slaves carried water

Except...the Essenes, sect of Judaism devoted to the Lord God

- Men who had separated themselves unto the Lord
- Rejected the priesthood in Jerusalem as false and corrupt (it was in fact both)
- They devoted themselves to the Word of God out in the desert by the Jordan River
  - John the Baptist lived among them (Luke 1:80)
  - Qumran and the Dead Sea Scrolls
- No women were allowed into this sect of Judaism
- Remained celibate...so they had to carry water

Jesus has arranged for an Essene to meet His 2 disciples sent to prepare the Passover

The difference between “Gentile time” and “Jewish time” must be grasped

Gentile time: The day starts at midnight and ends at midnight.

The “day” is either 24 hours or the daylight hours.

Jewish time: The day starts at sundown and ends at sundown (6pm-ish).

The “day” is the entire 24 hour period.

We have a Jewish Messiah speaking with Jewish disciples about a Jewish feast.

So we need to think in Jewish time....the difficult task of shifting time 6 hours “to the left”

This is the beginning of that day...6pm, not 6am

The Passover lamb was killed “between the eves”...

3pm and eaten before the end of the day...6pm  
(24 hours from now)

This timestamp is important...and now things happen suddenly

This is the 24 hour day Jesus will die on the Cross;

By the end of the next 24 hours, Jesus Christ the Lamb of God will lay down His life and be buried

v14-15 the guestchamber...large upper room furnished and prepared:  
Jesus tells His 2 disciples to follow the Essene who will meet them and go into the house he goes into  
They are to ask the householder ("such a man" in Matthew's account),  
on His behalf, where is the guestchamber, the place Jesus has appointed for this Passover  
The householder will, no questions asked, show them a large upper room (2<sup>nd</sup> floor) that is (already) furnished and prepared for Jesus and the 12  
  
How were these arrangements made in advance?  
Not recorded in Scripture but I believe by the Holy Spirit,  
as directed by the Father in heaven  
  
Who is directing events and times and places?  
Just like the Triumphal Entry, the Lord has made all the prior arrangements for the Passover/Last Supper  
The Lord is always in charge, in heaven and on earth  
  
v16 as He had said:  
The two disciples obeyed Jesus' direction and found...  
everything "as He had said"  
Is 52:12 the LORD will go before you...  
  
And they prepared the Passover

More details in Luke's account

### **Luke 22:7-13**

v7-8 Peter and John:  
On Passover (the day starts at sundown/6pm),  
when the Passover lamb must be slain/sacrificed and eaten (in the next 24 hours),  
Jesus sends...Peter and John to prepare the place for Him and the 12 to eat it  
  
My suspicion is that Judas Iscariot (v6, Mark 14:11) is watching and listening very closely  
He is looking for a convenient opportunity, apart from the crowds,  
to fulfill his contract to betray his Master  
This could well be the convenient time and place he is looking for!  
Every person in Jerusalem celebrating the Passover (in families) could provide the perfect timing for this crime

v9-10 into the city...a man...follow him:

Jesus knows He is going to be betrayed and by whom

Jesus knows Satan has entered Judas Iscariot

Jesus knows the deal Judas has made with the chief priests

Notice: the instructions Jesus gives to Peter and John:

- are not specific
  - how/where to enter Jerusalem: which of the 7 gates?
  - which man will meet them: now in Jerusalem there are many
    - Essenes
    - visitors
    - servants
  - which house: like looking for a needle in a haystack
- require walking by faith vs knowledge
  - just Go, not knowing where they are going
  - the man will meet you...he is looking for them vs they for him
    - knows who to look for – Peter and John
    - may know by the Spirit which gate they will enter

With His deliberately vague directions, Jesus

- sends Peter and John to complete His task
- frustrates His betrayer, not giving Judas the convenient time and place he is looking for to betray him
- “secures” the appointed meeting place and the events that will take place in it by making sure the chief priests are “in the dark”
- is in charge

Jesus, per the plan of God, would NOT be betrayed in the upper room

He would be betrayed...in a garden (Gen 3 was in a garden)

Given Luke 21:37...and Judas knew His routine and place (John 18:1-2)

v11-13 a large upper room:

Secured from a self-willed betrayer and His enemies is this large upper room

Site of Jesus' Final Preparations for the fulfillment of this feast (Passover) and the next (Pentecost)

Acts 1:1-15 after Jesus' ascension, the 11 returned to Jerusalem, to an upper room, continuing in one accord in prayer with 120 like-minded disciples

Acts 2:1-4 the promise of the Father, the baptism of Jesus Christ... The Holy Spirit upon – power to be His witnesses



Judas made Final Preparations to betray Jesus...  
but lacked important details like When, Where, How to execute his plan

Jesus made Final Preparations...  
including Who, What, When, Where, How

- in advance
- keeping the details to Himself
  - details to be revealed to disciples walking by faith
  - details kept from His betrayer
- according to the timing and plan of God,  
not according to Satan or wicked men
- “as He had said”

### **Application**

#### 1. Final Preparations for Judas Iscariot

What is your price to betray Jesus?

For how much money would I turn my back on Jesus Christ and all He offers?

Does every person have a price?

Yes, either paid by Satan or paid by Jesus

Satan pays slave wages that lead to perishing

Jesus paid the highest price! (1 Cor 5:7, 1 Cor 6:19-20, Acts 20:28) that  
leads to eternal life

State your price!

#### 2. Final Preparations for Jesus Christ

“as He had said”

Absolutely key to walking by faith: the truth of “as He had said”

Impossible to please God apart from faith, believing “as He had said”

Nothing in the universe is more certain than the Word of God

Matt 24:35

Believer and Backslider and unbeliever:

“Eat”/Believe it (what God has said)

Build your life on it

Be transformed and conformed by it

Be governed by it

Be set free by it