

Life and Ministry of Jesus Christ Longing and Strife at the Last Passover

Last time...final preparations were made by Judas and Jesus

Judas: to betray Jesus

He was an unbeliever (John 6:64), even facing the raised-from-the-dead Lazarus!

Luke 16:29-31 is true!

Jesus: to secure the site for this feast (Passover) and the next (Pentecost)

He was brilliantly vague in His directions to Peter and John;

they would have to walk in faith and His enemies would be kept in the dark

State your price: Before God and man and the devil, my price is the blood of Jesus Christ!

As the LORD God of Israel lives, before Whom I stand, I will serve my Lord and
not my Self

This time...an odd mixture at this Last Passover – Jesus’ longing and the disciples’ strife

We will be in Luke 22

v14 He sat down...apostles with Him:

In the parallel passages in Matt 26:20 and Mark 14:17 we are given the time of
day – evening i.e. the start of this Final Day

The scene: the large upper room already furnished and prepared

Jesus sits with the 12...including Judas...to eat the Passover

v15-16 I have desired...before I suffer...not anymore:

Jesus tells the 12 that He has longed to eat this Passover with them...

before He suffers as the Lord’s Passover, His Father’s sin sacrifice
(foreshadowed in Gen 22, foretold in Ps 22 and Is 53 etc)

The reason for the Lord’s longing is because this will be His Last Passover
(aka “Last Supper”) “until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God”

A. Every previous Passover, starting in Ex 12, had been pointing forward
in time to this Passover

This Day will the (prophetic shadow) Passover be fulfilled

Jesus has longed for this Passover to come

John 4:34

what fueled Him

John 5:30

seeks/desires the will of His Father

John 6:38

why He came

John 12:23-32

after Triumphal Entry, v24, 31-32

B. Jesus still has unfinished business on this Passover (“packed” day is just getting started) as well as before the kingdom of God

Purge the leaven (Unleavened Bread)

Final Words to the 11

Betrayal

Denial

Separation/abandonment by the 11

All the suffering, shame, humiliation, and injustice at hands J + G

Crucified

Lay down His life

John 19:30 “It is finished!”

Heb 2:17 make reconciliation for sins of the people

Preach to the captives in Abraham’s Bosom

Take the keys of death and hell from Satan (Rev 1:18)

Take up His life again...Resurrection

Be seen openly as certifiable raised from the dead (Acts 10:40)

Make a New Covenant

Jer 31:31-33 Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day *that* I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the LORD: But this *shall be* the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people.

Luke 24:25-32

Rom 1:16-17 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith

Ascend to right hand of the Father, lead captivity captive (Eph 4:8)
Baptize His disciples (Acts 2, Matt 3:11-12), heretofore not
baptized by Jesus (John 4:2), who will continue His
ministry of reconciliation (Acts 1:1, 2 Cor 5:17-21)

Receive His Bride (1 Thes 4:12-18)

Return to earth as King with His army (Rev 19:11-16)

Destroy His enemies and set up His kingdom – 1000 year reign

But the prophetic nature of the Passover, the prophetic importance of this
Passover, and all the unfinished business known fully by Jesus is a
mystery – the truth of God revealed in time – to the 12

Based on what happens next, it seems that the 12 disciples

- did not hear/choose to not hear the unthinkable – “before I suffer”
- heard the desire of their heart – “the kingdom of God”

Fueled

- not by spiritual meat
 - understanding what was really happening this very evening
 - simply believing what Jesus is saying simply
 - understanding the centrality of Jesus Christ to ALL Scripture
- but by carnal meat
 - their pre-conceived ideas regarding the Messiah
 - their pet doctrine (“Kingdom Now”)
 - their own selfish interests

the 12 are “stimulated” by this talk of the kingdom of God

Even though we have greater revelation of God’s Plan of Redemption today than
the 12 did that day, we need to learn an important lesson from them

We must read our Bibles carefully;

Every word, not disregarding words we “don’t like” or
cannot “get our head around” (human reasoning)

Not reading into what is written

Understand what God is saying, not looking for what we want to believe
God is saying

Simply believe what God is saying simply, knowing our understanding
will increase as we 2 Peter 3:18 and get closer to the fulfillment of
future prophetic events

Knowing the centrality of Jesus Christ in ALL Scripture

John 5:39 Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have
eternal life: and they are they which testify of me

Heb 10:7 Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book
it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God

Otherwise, doctrinal error creeps into the Church

Back to the evening of the Last Passover

When we consider all 4 Gospel accounts, what happens next is Luke 22:24-30;

Luke 22:17-23 (the Lord's Supper) happens later in the evening

v24 strife among them...greatest:

Jesus spoke of the kingdom of God

Those words stirred the fleshly hearts the 12

The disciples are not yet spiritually discerned, they are still quite carnal

John 2:19-22 Jesus answered and said unto them, **Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.** Then said the Jews, Forty and six years was this temple in building, and wilt thou rear it up in three days? But he spake of the temple of his body. When therefore he was risen from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this unto them; and they believed the scripture, and the word which Jesus had said.

John 12:16 These things understood not his disciples at the first: but when Jesus was glorified, then remembered they that these things were written of him, and *that* they had done these things unto him.

Luke 24:36-47

“The kingdom of God” to them was the restoration of the kingdom to Israel, independence from Rome, and they think it is VERY soon!

So infighting breaks out among them...a jealous, self-exalting dispute of who will be greatest in the kingdom

They are competing for position and power in a kingdom they do not understand

They still do not grasp what Jesus had previously taught them on this very issue of “greatest in the kingdom”

1. Mark 9:30-37/Matt 17:22 – 18:6

Last of all

Servant of all

Be converted to become child-like...humble, trusting

2. Matt 20:20-28 with Jer 25:15-16, 27-29

Minister/servant, to lose/give his life...as the Master Himself

3. Matt 23:1-12

Servant, humble, submissive to the Master

In their jealous competition for position and power in a kingdom they do not understand, the 12 are nothing like “the greatest in the kingdom”
So Jesus, once again, teaches about greatness in the kingdom of God

v25 exercise lordship over...benefactors:

The kingdom His disciples have in mind is one like the kingdoms of the nations
Kings in those kingdoms rule over the people; the people serve the ruler

From the Creator’s perspective of order,

Dan 4:17 to the intent that the living may know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will, and setteth up over it the basest of men

those who have the power are to be “workers of good”

Rom 13:1-4 Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation. For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same: For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to *execute* wrath upon him that doeth evil.

v26 greatest among you...serve:

But the kingdom of God does not operate like the kingdoms of the nations

1 Cor 1:23-31

The greatest in the kingdom of God are no different than the children, or the “new kid on the block”

There is no seniority system in the kingdom of God

The greatest in the kingdom is not determined by numbers

There is no elite ruling class lording over common working folks

There is no skybox section with 5 Star buffets for some and bleacher seats
with hotdogs for most

There is no 1st cabin for a few and economy class for everyone else

The kingdom of God is one huge amazing family!

Brethren (Matt 23:8) are all equal

Those who have authority in the kingdom of God do not rule over others but rather serve others – wait on others, are waiters serving others

Is 55:8-9 For my thoughts *are* not your thoughts, neither *are* your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For *as* the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts

v27 whether is greater...I am...as he that serves:
Jesus asks a question they would certainly understand, given the occasion,
The Passover (“Last Supper”)

Which is greater:
The one who reclines at the table
or
the one who waits on those reclining at the table?

Obviously, the one who reclines at the table is greater than the waiters.

But...
I...your Master/Lord (the only Master, Matt 23:8, 10)
am among you...am to you
as he that serves...will serve you, My servants

There is none greater than the Master, but the Master came to serve
(His Father, His disciples, Adam’s race)
not to be served
The mystery of the Messiah – Servant of God, the Servant King

Greatness is directly linked with serving
Serving requires humility and submission

Jesus Christ, the Servant of God, came to serve;
He has sent us to serve

v28 continued with me in My temptations:
You 12 have stayed with Me in My temptations/adversities

- through the hard saying (John 6:67-71)
- with the Jews (Pharisees, scribes), opposition really ramped up in the 3rd year of His ministry and is now at a crescendo

Note 11 of the 12 will stay with Him thru the temptations/adversities this Day will bring and beyond

v29-30 I appoint unto you a kingdom...eat and drink at My table:
My Father has promised Me a kingdom (2 Sam 7, Ps 2), I promise you a kingdom

But neither like the kingdom they have in mind nor when they think

John 18:33-37

In His kingdom, they will

- eat and drink at His table

v16

As the lame (no strength, no merit) Mephibosheth at David's table
(2 Sam 9)

- sit in judgment of the 12 tribes of Israel

Matt 19:23-28...in the regeneration

Rev 20:4...in His promised 1000 Year Reign

The 12 apostles, less one who will be replaced

Luke 20:35...accounted worthy to obtain that world
and the resurrection from the dead

A very important teaching by Jesus regarding "greatness" in His kingdom

The kingdom of God is not about getting what we can but about giving what we have
Competing and striving for position and power is the stuff that divides unto destruction
(church splits) and grieves the Holy Spirit

Greatest in the kingdom of God

God's definition (the mindset is to serve...the mind of Christ, wisdom)

vs

Man's definition (the mindset is to be served...mind of Satan/world/flesh, foolishness)

Leaders in the kingdom of God are not rulers, they are servants of all

There is One Lord over all (Eph 4:5)

Servants do not have dominion over other servants but rather are helpers of the joy of others
(2 Cor 1:24)

Servants given authority by the Lord do so for edification, not for destruction (2 Cor 10:8) or
judgment (Rom 14:4)

The Body has One Head, and many equal parts all serving the Head

Next week: John 13:16 *Verily, verily, I say unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord*
The Lord will demonstrate/do as He has taught

Luke 8:21 *My mother and my brethren are these which hear the word of God,
and do it*

Luke 11:28 *blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it.*