

Chapter Twenty Six

The Conspiracy

I. Introduction

- A. Now the battle begins
- B. Satan has amassed all his hosts of demons, and men against the Son of God
- C. His only goal is to destroy both HIM and His work
- D. He has used peter, James and John in the past, but now turns up the heat, and will fill Judas, and will cause havoc and ruin amongst the small group of remaining disciples
- E. But that will be fine. Jesus can still carry on and fix everything!

II. Lesson - The Concpiracy (26:1 – 75)

A. Jesus Again Prepares His Disciples for His Betrayal (Mt 26:1-5)

- 1. The feast of unleavened bread lasts for _____ days (from Nisan 15 through Nisan 21).
- 2. The feast of the Passover is on the 14th of Nisan
- 3. This is Monday evening (the start of the Jewish Tuesday). Remember, the Jews reckoned days from sunset to sunset.
- 4. The day prior, Jesus had ridden into Jerusalem on the donkey
- 5. The religious leaders are furious at Jesus’ popularity (especially because of the size of the crowds in jerusalem at this time, and they all were looking for JESUS instead of for THEM). They meet together to discover how to “subtly” capture Hesus and destroy Him
- 6. But they decide it cannot be on the Feast Day (Thursday) – it has to be _____ Passover

B. Jesus is Anointed for his Soon Burial (Mt 26:6-13)

- 1. There are THREE anointings of Jesus

In Simon the Pharisee’s Home Luke 7:36-50	In Lazarus’ House John 12:1-8	In Simon the Leper’s Home Mt 26:6-14; Mark 14:1-10
A full year before the crucifixion	Six days before Passover	Two days before Passover
A sinful woman	Mary, Martha’s sister	A woman enters
Alabaster box	Pound of spikenard	Alabaster box of ointment of spikenard
Washed his feet with tears, and wiped them with the hairs of her head, and kissed his feet, and then anointed them with the ointment	Anointed Jesus’ feet and wiped His feet with her hair	She brake the box, and poured it on his head
Simon the Pharisee was upset	Judas upset	Some of the disciples were upset
	Figures it was worth 300 pence	Figures it’s worth more than 300 pence
Done because she was forgiven	Done in preparation for His burial	Done in preparation for His burial

- 2. The Alabaster Box (Mk 14:3)
 - a. Very costly
 - b. Very wonderful smelling, and emotive
 - c. She broke it open, poured it out and ruined it – out of love for the Lord!
- 3. This one act really upset the disciples – not just Judas Iscariot
 - a. One “Judas” can affect a whole lot of people
 - b. Asks, “What purpose?” and then declares “What waste!”
 - c. All with a pretense of concern for “_____”
- 4. A truly good work (Mt 26:10-13)
 - a. Is when it is done for Jesus
 - b. Will cost you
 - c. When done _____, not later – may be too late
 - d. Is done _____ what Jesus says, even when confusing – Jesus spoke of His upcoming burial
 - e. Is done to honour His death, not just His kingdom and power
 - f. Gives it all – only then is it truly worship
 - g. Will be honoured by Christ (26:13) with it being preached worldwide

5. This good work provokes Judas to sell out Jesus (26:14)
 - a. Judas is simply covetous – he loves money (1Tim 6:10)
 - b. He is only using Jesus for his own personal gain – as with all religions!

C. Judas Iscariot Agrees to Betray Jesus – Judas’ price (26:14-16)

1. He betrays Jesus – he goes to the “other side”
2. He helps them capture Jesus
3. He has a price – 30 pieces of silver – price of a _____ (Zech 11:11-14)
4. Jesus’ ruin as King of the Jews is set in motion

D. Jesus Prepares for the Passover Meal (Mt 26:17-19)

1. Jesus and His disciples need to eat the passover meal – they are not going to miss it.
 - a. Jesus tells them to prepare a day early (Mt 26:17)
 - b. There are at least _____ Passovers during the ministry of Jesus (John 2:13; 6:4; 19:14), including his final one
 - c. This is amazing because, someone had already prepared an entire passover meal for Jesus, and they did it a **WHOLE DAY EARLY!**
 - d. When the disciples questioned Jesus about where they were going to eat the Passover meal the next night, they still did not fully understand that He would be _____ then! The Messiah would not be able to eat the Passover lamb on Passover day because He was destined to be sacrificed as our Passover (1 Cor. 5:7).
 - e. But instead of explaining to them then that he would be in the grave when the time came to eat the Passover lamb, he simply told his disciples where to prepare to eat the Passover meal.
2. The sequence of events of the last week of Jesus
 - a. Monday – Jesus teaching in the Temple all day
 - b. Monday evening – Anointing in Simon’s home
 - c. Tuesday – preparing for an early passover meal
 - d. Tuesday evening
 - 1) Eating the _____ meal
 - 2) _____ meal (Mt 26:26-29; Mk 14:22-25; Lk 22:19-23; 1Cor 11:23-29)
 - 3) Judas leaves to bargain with the Pharisees for the capture of Jesus
 - 4) Jesus _____.
 - 5) Jesus predicts Peter’s 3 denials (26:33-35)
 - 6) Walks to _____
 - 7) Jesus prays for 3 hours (Mt 26:36-46; John 17)
 - e. Early Wednesday morning
 - 1) Jesus is _____ (Mt 26:47-56)
 - 2) Brought through _____ mock trials
 - a) Before Annas – father in-law of Caiaphas (Jn 18:12-14; 19:24)
 - b) Caiaphas (Jn 18:24)
 - c) Sanhedrin (Mt 27:1-f)
 - d) _____ (Mt 27:2,11-14; John 18:38)
 - e) Herod (Luke 23:6-12)
 - f) _____ again (Mt 27:15-23; Jn 18:39 – 19:6)
 - g) The People (Mt 27:24-31; Jn 19:7-16)
 - 3) Judas hangs himself while Jesus is being condemned (Mt 27:1-10)
3. So, John specifically points out repeatedly that the "last supper," the betrayal by Judas, and Jesus’ trial and crucifixion all occurred **before** the Passover, which was on Thursday.

E. The Lord’s Supper (Mt 26:20-29; 1Cor 11:20)

1. It should be referred to as the _____
2. Jesus and his disciples have just finished celebrating the Passover event (Ex 12)

- a. Everything on the table was special for remembering what God did for Israel as a nation while slaves in Egypt
 - b. The foods on the table included:
 - 1) Roasted Lamb
 - 2) Bitter herbs (usually raw horseradish) - symbolizes the bitterness of slavery
 - 3) Unleavened bread
 - 4) Unleavened (non-alcoholic) wine
 - 5) Sop (bowl) of salt water for dipping the bread and the herbs in
3. It was the START of the week of cleansing from leaven throughout Israel
4. Jesus Identifies His Betrayer (Mt 26:25)
- a. One of you shall betray me – turn your back on me and turn me over to the Sanhedrin for ruin
 - b. They ALL (except John) began to say, “Is it me?”
 - c. Jesus replied that it was the one who dipped his bread at that moment into a small bowl of salt water
 - d. Jesus declares everything is happening just as prophesied and planned by God (26:24)
 - e. BUT, free will is still in play “woe to the man who betrays me”
 - f. Then, lastly, Judas, as he dipped his bread in the bowl at the same time as Jesus asked mockingly, “_____, Is it I?” Judas never calls Jesus Lord!!!
 - g. Jesus responds, “Your words are correct” “You said it!” “You are telling the truth!”
 - h. Yet none of the other disciples paid any attention!
5. Jesus takes two foods from the Passover meal and makes them special for the disciples
- a. _____.
 - b. _____.
6. He blesses both and made them special to remember Him by (Mt 26:26-29)
- a. Took the break
 - 1) Blessed it
 - 2) _____ it
 - 3) Gave it to all the disciples – _____ – and told them to eat of it
 - 4) _____.
 - 5) Then he refers to the bread as His BODY. Literal, or Spiritual? An object lesson
 - a) “Destroy this _____” (John 2:19)
 - b) “Ye must be born again” (John 3:7)
 - c) “I am the living water” (John 4:10,11; 7:37,38)
 - d) “I am the bread of life” (John 6:35)
 - e) “I am the light of the world” (John 8:12)
 - f) “I am the _____” (John 10)
 - g) “I am the good shepherd” (John 10)
 - b. Took the wine cup
 - 1) He shared the cup
 - 2) Gave thanks for the shedding of blood for remission
 - 3) Told them all to drink all of it
 - 4) Jesus did not drink of THAT cup – He had another cup to drink later
 - 5) Points to the cup and says this is the blood of the _____
 - a) Covenants are _____
 - b) Testaments are the _____
 - c) The Old Covenant was based upon the blood of animals, and the requirements of the law
 - d) The New Covenant is based upon the blood of God’s Son, and the fulfillment of the law (Jer 31:31)
 - e) The Old Testament was the will of God carried out after the death of animal substitutes – it was what the Jewish part of the Bible was referred to as (2Cor 3:14)

- f) The New Testament is the will of God carried out after the death of His Son, and enables the believer to live by the Holy Spirit
 - g) Both Covenants and Testaments overlap, yet are different
 - c. Jesus refers to the wine as “_____” (see Isa 65:8)
 - d. This is simply an event that brings back a memory – of what Jesus did for the world (Lk 22:19)
7. Compare these events with John 6:53-63
 - a. Changing bread and wine to flesh and blood would require a miracle. True miracles could always be verified by the physical evidence that the change had occurred (cf. John 2:1-11), yet Catholicism admits there is no evidence of change in the bread and cup.
 - b. Similar statements of Jesus are: "I am the door ... I am the vine" (John 10:7,9; 15:1,5)
 8. Eating or drinking blood has always been forbidden (Lev 17:11; Acts 15:20-29)
 9. The Roman Catholic Blasphemy of the mass compared with Scripture

Roman Catholic Blasphemy	Scripture
Christ's Sacrifice is continued "Every time this mystery is celebrated, 'the work of our redemption is carried on' ..." Catechism of the Catholic Church, p 354, para 1405	Christ's sacrifice is finished (John 19:30; Heb 7:27; 9:12; 9:26; 9:28; 10:10-12)
Bread is turned into the body of Christ	The bread symbolises Christ's body and stays the same
Alcoholic Wine is turned into blood	The wine symbolises Christ's sinless blood, and stays the same
The wine is mainly refused to the laity	Jesus said Drink ye all of it
Yet the mass is said to be an unbloody sacrifice... "In this divine sacrifice which is celebrated in the Mass, the same Christ who offered himself once in a bloody manner on the altar of the cross is contained and is offered in an unbloody manner." Catechism of the Catholic Church, p. 344, para 1367	
Conducted by an officiating priest	Conducted by a pastor or church leader
Sacrificed on an altar	Broken simply by hands anywhere where Christians gathered (Acts 2:46)
Is part of sacramental steps towards salvation	Is a simple powerful reminder of who has saved us
Is referred to as "the mass"	Is referred to as Communion and the Lord's Supper

10. The Lord's Supper ended with a _____ (26:30)