

THE GOSPEL OF  
**MARK**®  
*servant* **KING**

## CHAPTER 14 – PART 1

*Verses 1-31*

### JESUS'S LAST HOURS WITH HIS DISCIPLES

“While thousands of Passover pilgrims were preparing for the joys of the feast, Jesus was preparing for the ordeal of His trial and crucifixion. Just as He had steadfastly set His face to go to Jerusalem (Luke 9:51), so He steadfastly set His heart to do the Father’s will. The Servant was “obedient unto death even the death of the cross” (Philippians 2:8). Follow His footsteps during the days and hours of the last week, and be amazed to see the response of various people to the Lord Jesus Christ” (Warren Wiersbe).

#### MEMORY VERSE

*And He said to them, this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many. Mark 18:24*

**Read Mark 14:1-31 prayerfully.** Note how many times you read Jesus saying the word “Assuredly I say to you.” How do these Words speak to you today?

#### THE PLOT TO KILL JESUS

1. It was time for Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread. What were the chief Priests and scribes seeking to do? When were they planning to accomplish this?

## **DIG DEEPER**

Read and study Exodus 12 with Mark 14:1-2 along with the Matthew and Luke passages. What does the Passover and Feast of Unleavened Bread celebration commemorate? How does Passover in the wilderness point to Jesus as the Lamb of God?

2. What does Matthew 26:1-2 tell us Jesus knew about this plot? Who did the chief priests and scribes fear? (See Luke 22:2 and John 11:45-53 for further information on this plot.) Who was really in control? How does this bring comfort to you?

## **THE ANOINTING OF JESUS**

Matthew and Mark placed this event right before the Last Supper, while John places it a week earlier just before the Triumphal Entry. It must be remembered that the main purpose of the gospel writers was not to present a chronological account of Jesus's life but to give accurate record of His message. Matthew and Mark may have chosen to place this event here to contrast the complete devotion of Mary with the betrayal of Judas, the next event in both gospels.

3. Where were Jesus and the disciples? Whose house were they at? Who was there? What happened while they were all eating (v.3)?
4. What additional details does John give about this family? What specifically does John add that Matthew and Mark leave out? What was the house filled with?
5. This Mary is found three times in the gospels (Luke 10:38-42; John 11:31-32; 12:1-8). Where is Mary found in all three? How are you following Mary's example?

## DIG DEEPER

This anointing of Jesus for His burial is not to be compared with another time a woman expressed her love for Jesus. Compare Luke 7:36-50 with John 12:2-8. Note the differences in each account.

6. Mary's act of devotion filled the house with fragrance. What does Paul say about a spiritual fragrance (2 Corinthians 2:15-16)? What kind of fragrance do you bring into your sphere of influence?
  
7. What was the reaction of those who were in the house to Mary's extravagance (vv.4-5)? (Also see Matt. 26:8-9.) Who does John name as and the one who openly criticized Mary? How did he mask his greed (John 12:4-6, 13:29)?
  
8. How did Jesus commend her act of love and devotion (v.6)? What did He Jesus make clear about the poor and Himself (v.7)?
  
9. What did Jesus know about Mary's heart? How did Jesus memorialize Mary (vv.8-9)? (Also see Matt. 26:10-13) How can you connect the beatitude in Matthew 5:10-12 in this moment?

### DID YOU KNOW?

"It is interesting that the word translated *waste* in Mark 14:4 is translated *perdition* in John 17:12 and applied to Judas! Judas criticized Mary for "wasting money," but he wasted his entire life!"

Warren Wiersbe

## PERSONAL

Mary gave her very best to Jesus. Her example of love and devotion goes into eternity. We all know her as a woman who sat at Jesus feet and gave what cost her. Jesus says in John 12:24 "...Unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain." What kind fruit are you producing? What will you be known for in all eternity?

## THE BETRAYAL PLAN

10. In response to this moment what did Judas begin to plan? What was the reaction of the chief priests? What did they decide to give Judas in exchange (vv.10-11)? What additional information do you see in Luke 22:3-5? What did Judas promise and seek (Luke 22:6)?

## JESUS CELEBRATES THE PASSOVER WITH HIS DISCIPLES

11. Comparing all the gospels: What day does Mark say it is? What is to happen at this particular time? Who did Jesus send out for this task (Luke 22:8)? How did Jesus instruct the disciples to prepare for the meal? List specific details below. (Other references: Luke 22:8-13; Matthew 26:18)
- Who were they to look for (v.13)?
  - What were they to say to the master of the house (v.14)?
  - What did the disciples find as they went out to prepare (v.16)?

### DID YOU KNOW?

The chief priests and scribes didn't want to seize Jesus during Passover. They planned to wait until Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread had ended and the crowds had left Jerusalem.

“The original Passover feast consisted of the roasted lamb, the unleavened bread, and the dish of bitter herbs (Exodus 12:8-20). The lamb reminded the Jews of the blood that was applied to the doorposts in Egypt to keep the angel of death from slaying their firstborn. The bread reminded them of their haste in leaving Egypt. (Exodus 12:39), and the bitter herbs spoke of the suffering as Pharaoh’s slaves.” *Warren Wiersbe*

12. In the evening Jesus came to the upper room with the twelve. How does Luke describe the time of arrival (Luke 22:14)? What is meant by “the hour”? (See John 2:4, 7:30, 8:20, 12:23, 12:27, 13:1, 16:4, 17:1.)
13. What does Jesus communicate to the disciples as the meal begins (Luke 22:15-16)?

14. As the Passover meal is celebrated, what announcement does Jesus give? What is the reaction of the disciples at the table (vv.17-19)? (Also see Matt. 26:22; Luke 22:21-22.) What additional input does John give us about this moment (John 13:21-25)?
15. How do you see Jesus giving His betrayer an opportunity to repent (v.20)? (Also see Matt. 26:23-24; John 13:26.)
16. What warning does Jesus give to Judas (v.21)? (Also see Matt. 26:24.) When is there no turning back for Judas (John 13:27)? What time of day was it when Judas walked away from Jesus (John 13:30)?

## **PERSONAL**

Jesus gave Judas every opportunity to repent and turn from his sin. He does the very same thing for us today. Have you repented of your sins and believe in Jesus Christ? Are you born again? “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life” (John 3:16).

## **JESUS INSTITUTES THE LORD’S SUPPER**

17. What did Jesus do as they were eating (vv.22-24)? (Also Luke 22:19-20; Matthew 26, 28.)
- a. What did He say the bread represented?
  - b. When He took the cup, what did He do and say?
  - c. What is the “new covenant?”

Jesus's death on the cross sealed a new covenant between God and us. The old covenant involved forgiveness of sin through the blood of an animal sacrifice (Exodus 24:6-8). But instead of a spotless lamb on an altar, Jesus Himself, as the spotless lamb of God, became the sacrifice that would forgive sin once and for all. Jesus is the final sacrifice for sin. Now we can come to Him with full confidence that God will hear us and save us from our sins.

18. As believers, we are never to forget the price Jesus paid for us to be forgiven.
  - a. What are we to remember every time we partake of the bread and the cup (Luke 22:19)?
  - b. What promise did Jesus give in Mark 14:25 and Matthew 26:29?
19. The word *remembrance* carries the idea of a present participation in a past event. How does Paul teach us the importance of this as we participate in a Communion service (1 Corinthians 11:23-26)?

## **PERSONAL**

As you remember the verses about communion, think to yourself: What is my attitude and heart as I approach a time of Communion? It is a holy and sacred time. What changes in my heart and mind do I need to make as I look forward to reflect on what Jesus has done for me?

20. As Jesus and the disciples left the upper room, they headed toward the Mount of Olives, and as they traveled sang a hymn based on Psalms 115-118. Skim through these hymns and pick a verse to meditate on; then share it with someone.

## **JESUS PREDICTS PETER'S DENIAL**

21. Jesus was heading toward the Garden of Gethsemane; while on the way, what did He warn His disciples of? (See Zechariah 13:7.) What assurance did He then give His disciples (v.38)?
  
22. How did Peter boast in self-confidence to Jesus's warning? What did Jesus warn Peter he would do in just a few hours (vv.29-31)? What three important additional details does Luke 22:54-62 tell us of this moment?
  
23. John also gives us more details of this conversation. What do you read in John 13:36-38?

## **DWELL ON THIS**

Though He was God, He did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. Instead, He gave up His divine privileges, He took a humble position of slave and was born a human being. When He appeared in human form, He humbled Himself in obedience to God and died a criminal's death on a cross (Philippians 2:6-8).

