

Matthew 26:1-30: Betrayal-Worship-Last Supper.

I. (1-5): The plan against Jesus.

Having lived a sinless life, called people to the Kingdom through repentance, performed so many miracles signs and wonders, entered into Jerusalem in triumph, cleansed the Temple, taught priceless lessons everything but earthly and heavenly life, it's now time for him to fulfill His Messianic call of crucifixion for us sinners.

They didn't want to put Jesus to death during the Passover **feast**, but that is exactly how it happened. This is another indication that God was in control, as they in fact killed Him on the very day that they didn't want to.

II. (6-13): Martha anoints Jesus.

We know from **John 12** that this **woman** was Mary, the sister of Lazarus and Martha who sat at the feet of Jesus in **Luke 10:39**, displaying this love and devotion to Jesus. As Judas criticizes her, Jesus commended her for the **good work** and honored her by appearing in the pages of scripture. Just as kings were anointed on their inauguration, priests were anointed into ministry; Jesus is anointed Him for His *burial*.

2 Samuel 24:24 - *Then the king said to Araunah, "No, but I will surely buy it from you for a price; nor will I offer burnt offerings to the LORD my God with that which costs me nothing." So David bought the threshing floor and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver.*

1 Chronicles 16:29 - *Give to the LORD the glory due His name; bring an offering, and come before Him. Oh, worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness!*

III. (14-16): Judas betrays Jesus.

Judas had only one motivation, *greed*. **Thirty pieces of silver** was a known set price for the basest slave.

IV. (17-25): A Last Supper.

Jesus identified the betrayer as a *friend*, someone he shared a meal with. It's shame for Judas to ask whether or not he was the one well knowing the truth.

Psalm 41:9 - *Even my own familiar friend in whom I trusted, who ate my bread, has lifted up his heel against me.*

When the bread was lifted up at Passover, the head of the meal would say: "This is the bread of affliction which our fathers ate in the land of Egypt. Let everyone who hungers come and eat; let everyone who is needy come and eat the Passover meal." Everything eaten at the Passover meal had a symbolic meaning. The bitter herbs recalled the bitterness of slavery; the salt water remembered the tears shed under Egypt's oppression. The main course of the meal - a lamb freshly sacrificed for that particular household - was the sin-bearing sacrifice that allowed the judgment of God to pass over the household that believed.

Jesus didn't give the normal explanation of the meaning of each of the foods. He reinterpreted them in Himself, and the focus was no longer on the suffering of Israel in Egypt, but on the sin-bearing suffering of Jesus on their behalf.

Jeremiah 31:33 - *"But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. "No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more."*

	Old Covenant	New Covenant
i.	Blood of animals and birds	Blood of Jesus
ii.	Offered a temporary cover	Complete cleansing and forgiveness
iii.	Periodic	Once and for all
iv.	God's Spirit only for a few	God's Spirit poured out for all believers
v.	Old sinful life	Newness of life

It is wonderful that Jesus sang. A Passover meal always ended with singing three Psalms known as the *Hallel*, **Psalms 116-118**. Some of the verses in these Psalms:-

Psalm 116:13-15- *I will take up the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the LORD. I will pay my vows to the LORD now in the presence of all His people. Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of His saints.*

Psalm 117:1-2 - *Praise the LORD, all you Gentiles! Laud Him, all you peoples! For His merciful kindness is great toward us and the truth of the LORD endures forever. Praise the LORD!*

Psalm 118:24- *This is the day the LORD has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.*