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The Final Week of Jesus Christ's Ministry - Thursday

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THE FINAL WEEK OF JESUS CHRIST'S MINISTRY—THURSDAY

THURSDAY

- **THE OUTLINE**

A. Preparation for the Passover (Mt. 26:17-19; Mk. 14:12-16; Lk. 22:7-13)

1. Jesus sends Peter and John to Jerusalem to prepare for the Passover supper (Lk. 22:8).
2. They are led to a large Upper Room by a man carrying a pitcher of water (Lk. 22:9-13).

B. Events in the Upper Room (Mt. 26:17-29; Mk. 12:25; Lk. 22:7-30; Jn. 13:1-38; 1 Cor. 11:23-26)

“Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that His hour had come that He should depart from this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end” (Jn. 13:1).

1. Jesus washes the feet of the disciples (Jn. 13:3-17, 19, 20).
2. Jesus announces His betrayal by one of them (Mt. 26:21; Mk. 14:18; Jn. 13:18, 21).
3. He identifies who this would be (Mt. 26:23; Mk. 14:20; Lk. 22:21).
4. He predicts Simon Peter's denials (Mt. 26:34).
5. He predicts all would eventually abandon Him (Mt. 26:31).
6. Satan enters into Judas (Jn. 13:2, 27).
7. Judas leaves the Upper Room (Jn. 13:27-30).
8. Jesus institutes the Lord's Supper (Mt. 26:26-29; Mk. 14:21-25; Lk. 22:14-20).
9. Jesus delivers His “Father's House” discourse (Jn. 14:1-13a).
 - a. He spoke about heaven (Jn. 14:1-4, 27-29).
 - b. He spoke about His Father (Jn. 14:5-15, 20-25, 30, 31).
 - c. He spoke about the Holy Spirit (Jn. 14:16-19, 26).
10. After the singing of a hymn the Savior and His disciples leave the Upper Room (Mt. 26:30a; Mk. 14:26).

- **THE ANALYSIS**

A. Jesus prepares for the Upper Room events

"And he sent Peter and John, saying, Go and prepare us the passover, that we may eat. And they said unto him, Where wilt thou that we prepare? And he said unto them, Behold, when ye are entered into the city, there shall a man meet you, bearing a pitcher of water; follow him into the house where he entereth in. And ye shall say unto the goodman of the house, The Master saith unto thee, Where is the guestchamber, where I shall eat the passover with my disciples? And he shall shew you a large upper room furnished: there make ready. And they went, and found as he had said unto them: and they made ready the passover." (Lk. 22:8-13)

1. The purpose behind this somewhat strange instruction of Jesus was probably to keep the actual location of the final Passover from Judas as long as possible. Our Lord was, of course, aware of the wicked plot against Him.
2. This is the first reference to the Upper Room, a place that would become very important in the life of the early church.
 - a. Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper in this room (Lk. 22:14-15).
 - b. He later appeared here to ten of His apostles on the first Easter Sunday night (Jn. 20:19).
 - c. He showed His nail-pierced hands to Thomas a week later (Jn. 20:24-26).
 - d. The apostles gathered for both a prayer meeting and a business meeting in this room (Acts 1:12-26).
 - e. The Holy Spirit came upon them here (Acts 2:1).

B. Jesus presides over the Upper Room events

1. He partakes of the Passover

"Now before the feast of the passover, when Jesus knew that his hour was come that he should depart out of this world unto the Father, having loved his own which were in the world, he loved them unto the end. And supper being ended, the devil having now put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him." (Jn. 13:1-2)

This involved roasting the lamb, setting out the unleavened bread and wine, and preparing bitter herbs along with a sauce made of dried fruit moistened with vinegar and wine and combined with spices.

2. He washes their feet

"Jesus knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he was come from God, and went to God; He riseth from supper, and laid aside his garments; and took a towel, and girded himself. After that he poureth water into a bason, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel wherewith he was girded. Then cometh he to Simon Peter: and Peter saith unto him, Lord, dost thou wash my feet? Jesus answered and said unto him, What I do thou knowest not now; but thou shalt know hereafter. Peter saith unto him, Thou shalt never wash my feet. Jesus answered him, If I wash thee not, thou hast no part with me. Simon Peter saith unto him, Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head. Jesus saith to him, He that is washed needeth not save to wash his

feet, but is clean every whit: and ye are clean, but not all. For he knew who should betray him; therefore said he, Ye are not all clean.” (Jn. 13:3-11)

3. He speaks to them regarding servanthood (Jn. 13:12-19).

4. He announces His impending betrayal:

”When Jesus had thus said, he was troubled in spirit, and testified, and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, that one of you shall betray me.” (Jn. 13:21)

5. His disciples are dumb struck:

”And they were exceeding sorrowful, and began every one of them to say unto him, Lord, is it I?” (Mt. 26:22)

”Now there was leaning on Jesus’ bosom one of his disciples, whom Jesus loved. Simon Peter therefore beckoned to him, that he should ask who it should be of whom he spake. He then lying on Jesus’ breast saith unto him, Lord, who is it?” (Jn. 13:23-25)

To their credit, they did not say, "Lord, is it such and such?" or "Lord, I'm sure I know who it is."

”Then Judas, which betrayed him, answered and said, Master, is it I? He said unto him, Thou hast said.” (Mt. 26:25)

Here Judas called Jesus "Rabbi" (Master), and not "Lord," as did the other apostles in the Upper Room.

6. Jesus hints in regards to the traitor's identification:

”Jesus answered, He it is, to whom I shall give a sop, when I have dipped it. And when he had dipped the sop, he gave it to Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon. And after the sop Satan entered into him. Then said Jesus unto him, That thou doest, do quickly. Now no man at the table knew for what intent he spake this unto him. For some of them thought, because Judas had the bag, that Jesus had said unto him, Buy those things that we have need of against the feast; or, that he should give something to the poor. He then having received the sop went immediately out: and it was night.” (Jn. 13:26-30)

Apparently Judas had played his deceitful role so well that the eleven still did not realize he was the traitor, in spite of Christ's obvious statement.

7. He predicts His disciples would soon all forsake Him (Mt. 26:31).

8. He promises to meet them in Galilee following His resurrection (Mt. 26:32).

9. He predicts Peter's denials:

”Peter answered and said unto him, Though all men shall be offended because of thee, yet will I never be offended. Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, That this night, before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice. Peter said unto him, Though I should die with thee, yet will I not deny thee. Likewise also said all the disciples. Then cometh Jesus with

them unto a place called Gethsemane, and saith unto the disciples, Sit ye here, while I go and pray yonder.” (Mt. 26:33-36)

”And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.” (Lk. 22:31-32)

The devil once requested permission from God to test and torment another choice servant of God, Job (see Job 1-2). Here Satan apparently asked for the same power over Simon Peter. The apostle may have had this very event in mind when he wrote concerning the devil and the believer in one of his epistles (see 1 Pet. 5:7-11). At any rate, it should be a great comfort for all believers to know that the resurrected Savior is, even today, at this very moment, praying for them in glory (see Rom. 8:34; 1 John 2:1; Heb. 7:25; 9:24).

10. He institutes the Lord's Supper from the remains of the Passover meal.

”And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins. But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.” (Mt. 26:26-29)

11. He speaks to them regarding discipleship, heaven, His relationship with the Father, and the coming ministry of the Holy Spirit (Jn. 13:31-14:31).

12. He concludes the meeting with a song and they depart for the Mt. of Olives.

”And when they had sung an hymn, they went out into the mount of Olives.” (Mt. 26:30)

Six Psalms are called the "Hallel" Psalms. These are: 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, and 118. All of these were to be sung on the eve of the Passover. This is what Jesus and the disciples sang. Note some of the verses in these Psalms:

”The sorrows of death compassed me, and the pains of hell gat hold upon me: I found trouble and sorrow” (116:3).

”I will take the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the Lord” (116:13).

”The stone which the builders refused is become the head stone of the corner. This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it” (118:22-24).

”Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord...” (118:26).