Luke Chapter 22

V: 1 The Passover feast described in Exodus and Leviticus was often called the feast of unleavened bread because only unleavened bread was eaten from the beginning of the Passover and for the next 7 days. Another way of putting it was that the Passover was the first day of the feast of unleavened bread.

- This took place on the 14th day of the 1st month, Nisan / March-April. On the 15th day began the feast of "un-leavened bread" which was a Sabbath day, and ended 7 days later with a Sabbath day, all of which points to Jesus our Lord.

1 Corinthians 5:7-8 "7Therefore purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us. 8Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth."

- On the Passover they would take the lamb that had been in their household for 4 days, having examined and finding no fault or blemish in it – they would kill it, slitting it's throat and catching the blood in a basin. As the lamb was being cooked, roasted – they would take the blood and using hyssop spread it upon the door posts and lintel of the house.

- The death angel which was sent out to kill all the firstborn of Egypt would then see the blood on the door post and lintel, and "pass over" that house – the inhabitants being saved by the blood of the lamb.

- The mention of the Passover is a time stamp, that it is quickly approaching, and it indicates who he is writing to. If he'd been writing to Jews this explanation or the tying of the two events together wouldn't have been necessary – but he was writing to the Greeks who were learning about this as he wrote.

- As far as timing goes, Jesus' crucifixion and the Passover were intended to coincide, Jesus is the Passover Lamb for Israel and for all of us.

1 Peter 1:18-19 "18Knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, 19but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:"

V: 2 Part of the timing of things involves the chief priests and scribes who would initiate their plans to kill Jesus – who have sought several times in the past to do so unsuccessfully but will now be allowed to do this as it fits into God's plan and timing.

Acts 2:23"Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, you have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain:"

- Their timing was impacted by their fear of the people, because the people held Jesus in high esteem.

V: 3 Satan entered Judas: 1st time. Satan was able to enter into Judas only because there was a vacancy…believers cannot be possessed, they can be oppressed but not possessed.

1 Corinthians 3:16 "Know ye not that you are the temple of God, and that the spirit of God dwells in you?"

Speaking of Jesus:

Ephesians 1:13-14 "13In whom you also trusted, after that you heard the Word of Truth, the Gospel of your salvation: in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, 14who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory."

1 John 4:4 "You are of God little children, and have overcome them: because greater is He that is in you, than he that is in the world."

2nd time:

John 13:27 "Now after the piece of bread, Satan entered him. Then Jesus said to him, "what you do, do quickly.'"

V: 4-6 Judas Iscariot went and "conferred" KJV - "communed" or spoke with the chief priests and leaders, making a deal to betray Jesus.

2 Corinthians 6:14 "Be not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship has righteousness with unrighteousness? And what communion has light with darkness?"

- What communion or fellowship has light with darkness? The answer is none, but darkness gets along with darkness just fine.

Amos 3:3 "How can two walk together, unless they be agreed?"

Matthew 26:15 "… What are you willing to give me if I deliver Him to you? And they covenanted / counted out to him thirty pieces of silver."

- "30 pieces of silver": 1. The price of a slave. **Exodus 21:32**
  2. The exact amount prophesied in Zechariah.

Zechariah 11:12-13"12Then I said to them, if it is agreeable to you, give me my wages; and if not, refrain. So they weighed out for my wages thirty pieces of

silver. 13And the LORD said to me, "Throw it to the potter" - that princely price they set on me. So I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw them into the house of the LORD for the potter."

- They were glad to make this deal with Judas to betray Jesus – they made a covenant to do so away from the crowds.

V: 7-13 The day of unleavened bread was Wednesday, it was a day of preparation, making things ready so that on the next day, which is Thursday the Passover lamb could be slain, cooked, and eaten – all of which would begin at dusk on Wednesday.

- Jesus sends Peter & John to go and prepare the meal: Seemingly the two most "senior" or prominent Apostles to go do the grunt work.

Matthew 23:11 "But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant."

- Jesus tells them to go into the city, and when they get there they will meet a man carrying a pitcher of water – follow him into the house.

- A man carrying a pitcher of water would be distinctive because that was generally women's work.

Practical history / requirements.

- Peter & John find everything just as Jesus had said. Jesus is firmly in control of all these events.

- According to the OT, Passover was to be celebrated by households or families. Here Jesus takes His "family" – the disciples, and they celebrate the Passover together.

Jesus was told that his mother and brothers were looking for Him:

Matthew 12:49-50 "49And He stretched out His hand toward His disciples and said, "here are My mother and My brothers! 50For whoever does the will of My Father in heaven is My brother and sister and mother."

V: 14-15 When the hour was come - precisely - meaning the exact time that was determined in God's divine plan.

Deuteronomy 16:6 "But at the place where the LORD your God chooses to make His name abide, there you shall sacrifice the Passover at twilight, at the going down of the sun, at the time you came out of Egypt."

- This began at sundown, the Jewish day began at sundown, from sundown to sundown. This is already Thursday as far as the Jews are concerned.

- The Passover day had begun, Jesus ate the Passover feast with His disciples, and He would be crucified before the day was over.

"15With fervent desire I have desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer;"

- *Jesus was eager to do what was needed to restore us into fellowship with God.*

John 13:1 "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."

V: 16-18 Jesus wouldn't eat any more, nor would He partake of the remainder of the Passover drink offerings until the kingdom of God would come, until they would be re-united at the marriage supper of the Lamb, in fulfillment of the kingdom of God.

- Jesus took the cup and gave thanks and told the disciples to divide it amongst themselves – He didn't drink of it.

- This was the 4th cup of the Passover meal called "the cup of joy."

- His joy would not be complete until after they / we had been fully reconciled to God through the substitutionary sacrifice of Himself for our sins.

Hebrews 12:2 "Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God."

V: 19-20 Jesus is giving new meaning to the elements of communion, they are no longer reminders of the lamb that was slain in Egypt and God's deliverance from when the blood was placed on the door posts.

- From now on these things were reminders of the Lamb of God that was slain for the sins of the world – and that as the blood is applied to our lives we've passed from death to life through Him.

Galatians 2:20 "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ lives in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me."

- Notice that Jesus instructs His disciples and gives symbolic meaning to the bread and the wine as being His body and His blood – before He actually goes to the cross – affirming that these elements truly are symbolic.

1. Also due to the fact that leaven and fermentation both picture corruption, both were forbidden in the Passover ordinances. Because of that I believe that the "wine" wasn't fermented, but more like grape juice.

2. I don't think that Jesus would have us equate His blood to something that is in a state of decay or fermentation.

V: 21-22 Jesus knew all along who would betray Him in fulfillment of prophecy.

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

- Truly the Son of man goes as it was determined:

Acts 2:23"Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, you have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain:"

Prophesied and spoken of from the beginning:
Genesis 3:15 "And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel."

Described in graphic detail 1,200 - 750 years before Jesus was born:
Psalm 22, Isaiah 52 & 53

- From the beginning of all creation and before, this was God's plan – knowing that man would fail, yet loving us so much that He would make a way for us to be with Him.

Romans 5:8 "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

- So the Son of man goes as it was determined – *"but woe to that man by whom He is betrayed!"*

- Was Judas a hapless victim? No, Judas made his own choices and was held responsible for them.

- This brings us to the place again of examining the aspects of our free choice and self determination, the responsibility of man and the sovereignty of God.

  1. If God has already ordained that a thing is going to happen, then how can we change it?

  2. What part do we play, we seemingly make our own choices, but am I just a victim of fate and the predestined plans of God?

  3. If God has pre-destined something to happen then there is no way that we can stop it from happening, and we become his instrument through which it happens.

4. Judas willingly disbelieved Jesus, he willingly opened the door of his heart to Satan who gladly stepped in – and God knew from the beginning of time that this would happen.

5. Where or how does human responsibility come in? We can take the sovereignty of God to it's logical extreme and eliminate human responsibility all together. (Determinism)

6. At the same time scripture teaches that man is responsible and will be held accountable, that God has given us the capacity of choice – and demands that we choose.

7. These positions can be taken to extremes with both sides being able to cite scripture to support their positions.

8. This is because scripture does in fact teach the sovereignty of God, and at the same time scripture also teaches the free choice and responsibility of man.

9. How do we reconcile them? <u>The answer is that we don't</u>.

10. The real issue isn't which one is right – the real problem is one of our own limitations to understand and comprehend – our inability to understand to think in comparison to God's capacity.

11. God is omniscient, God knows all things – which means He can't learn anything new. If anything can be known or will ever be known – He knows it already, because He's omniscient.

12. God knows the outcome of every choice before the choice is ever made.

13. If God is ever going to know who's going to be saved, then He's always known who was going to be saved.

14. If we were omniscient we might be able to reconcile these truths, but we're not – and so we can't, it becomes a matter of faith, trusting God, taking Him at His Word.

Hebrews 11:1 "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

1. Faith is believing what we don't understand. I don't understand how God can be sovereign, and yet I have to be responsible, yet the Bible teaches both, so I believe both and just leave it there.

2. Just believing only what I can reason through or explain is not faith, believing what I don't understand takes faith.

3. We haven't been called to understand everything, just to believe and trust in Him.

- Let's look at another example in the Bible that works out a little better in the book of Esther:

- When the Jewish nation was facing extermination, during their continued captivity under the Persian empire:

- Esther had become queen and Haman who hated the Jews had determined to put the Jews to death.

1. Esther's uncle, Mordecai sent a message to Esther asking her to intervene with the king.

2. She told her uncle that he didn't understand the protocol of the court, that even though she was the queen she couldn't just walk in un-invited, she could be put to death.

3. She has to be called or bidden into the kings presence or the guards would kill her – unless the king raises his scepter to intervene on her behalf.

4. Mordecai responded that she being a Jewess would not be exempt from Haman's plot and that if she failed to act that God would raise up another deliverer from some other place.

Esther 4:14 "For if you remain completely silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father's house will perish. Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"

- Ester made her own choice, and was used of God in the process – which was his plan all along.

- I guess the only chance of understanding the sovereignty of God and the responsibility of man is in the realm of being obedient to the Spirit and fulfilling God's perfect will.

- Jesus has just told them that the betrayer is in their midst, but He didn't actually identify that person initially.

V: 23 They began to inquire amongst themselves "who could it be?"

- Interesting that they didn't all just turn and point to Judas Iscariot, the suspicious looking guy – "I knew it all along…" not!

Matthew 26:21-22 "[21]Now as they were eating, He said, "assuredly, I say to you, one of you will betray Me." [22]And they were exceedingly sorrowful, and each of them began to say to Him, "Lord, is it I?"

- Jesus knew all along that Judas would betray Him, why would He at this time make this announcement?

2 Reasons:

1st Timing: Jesus initiated the sequence of events that would lead to His crucifixion, they didn't just happen to Him, He was in full control.

John 10:17-18 "[17]Therefore My Father loves Me, because I lay down My life, that I may take it again. [18]No man takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment I have I received from My Father."

2nd Protocol: Non believers should not partake of communion.

1 Corinthians 11:27-29 "[27]Therefore whoever eats this bread, and drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. [28]But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. [29]For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body."

- As the disciples ask *"Is it I?"* This infers or is an admission that it could be.

- Each of the disciples knew that they were capable of betrayal and humbly assumed that it might be themselves. Heart searching time.

Jeremiah 17:9 "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it?"

Psalm 139:23-24 "[23]Search me, oh God, and know my heart; try me, and know my thoughts; [24]and see if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."

V: 24 They moved from "Is it I?" to "Is it you?" – that led into a dispute about who the greatest was, employing the process of elimination to determine the one who would betray Jesus.

- All 4 Gospels record this event, but the Gospels of Matthew & John give the most direct / positive ID of the betrayer.

Matthew 26:25 "Then Judas, who was betraying Him, answered and said, "Rabbi, is it I". He said to him, "You have said it.'"

John 13:26-27 "[26]Jesus answered, "It is he to whom I shall give a piece of bread when I have dipped it." And having dipped the bread, He gave it to Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon."

V: 25 Jesus weighed in on the discussion / debate by admonishing them that the Gentiles, the pagans have these discussions about who the greatest is, jockeying for position and authority – climbing the corporate ladder at other's expense. He's saying don't be like them.

- Don't do it the "pagan" way.

Psalm 1:1 "Blessed is the man that walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful."

Ephesians 4:17-18 "[17]This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that henceforth you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind, [18]having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart;"

V: 26 *"But not so among you…"*

Ephesians 5:8 "For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord, walk as children of light."

- Again God's economy, God's order of things: first – last & last – first.

- In that culture, age was honored, the elders were in charge, the younger served them and learned along the way.

- "serve" (G-1249) diakonos, dee-ak'-on-os;- "minister" = "servant" an attendant, a waiter (at table or in other menial duties); servant.

1 Peter 5:2-4 "[2]Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; nor for dishonest gain / filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; [3]Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being examples to the flock. [4]And when the Chief Shepherd shall appear, you shall receive a crown of glory that doesn't fade away."

- "Servant" (G-1401) doulos, doo'-los = "bond servant" / "slave" – willingly so.

V: 27 Following the example that Jesus set for us, coming to serve rather than to be served.

Matthew 20:27-28 "[27]And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave - [28]just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

V: 28 Jesus is acknowledging that they haven't given up. There is no second place, we either finish the race or we don't.

John 6:66-69 "[66]From that time many of His disciples went back, and walked with Him no more. [67]Then Jesus said to the twelve, do you also want to go away? [68]But Simon Peter answered Him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. [69]Also we have come to believe and know that You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

Hebrews 10:38-39 "[38]Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draws back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him. [39]But we are not of them who draw back to perdition; but of those that believe to the saving of the soul."

Matthew 24:13 "But he that endures to he end shall be saved."

V: 29-30 Jesus is describing their eternal rewards, if they endure to the end.

- Just like each of the churches of Revelation was given a specific reward:

Revelation 2:7 Ephesus "… to him that overcomes will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God."

Revelation 2:10-11 Smyrna "[10]… be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life. [11]He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. He who overcomes shall not be hurt by the second death."

Revelation 2:17 Pergamos "… to him who overcomes I will give some of the hidden mana to eat. And I will give him a white stone, and on the stone a new name written which no one knows except him who receives it."

Revelation 2:26-28 Thyatira "[26]And he who overcomes, and keeps My works until the end, to him I will give power over the nations - [27]He shall rule them with a rod of iron; …. [28]And I will give him the morning star…"

Revelation 3:5 Sardis "He who overcomes, shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels."

Revelation 3:9-10, 12 Philadelphia "[9]Indeed I will make those of the synagogue of Satan, who say they are Jews and are not, but lie - indeed I will make them come and worship before your feet, and to know that I have loved you. [10]Because you

have kept My command to persevere, I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth. - "12He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple or My God, and he shall go out no more. I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And I will write on him My new name."

Revelation 3:21 Laodicea "To him who overcomes will I grant to sit with Me on My throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with My Father on His throne."

- The Apostles will be eating and drinking at His table, judging the 12 tribes of Israel, positions of honor and authority.

V: 31-32 First the discussion was about who would betray Jesus, then who was the greatest, then about being servants, then the reward for pressing onto the end – now the cost.

- "Simon, Simon…" speaks of love and tenderness in the heart of Christ for Peter as He tells him what will soon transpire.

- Perhaps, our Lord knowing Peter's heart addressed the pride in his heart.

- Just as Jesus was pressed and challenged by the enemy so too would Peter be pressed, and all believers as we press on.

Philippians 3:10 "That I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being made conformable unto His death;"

- The enemy is always on the prowl, always looking for a weakness to exploit, always wanting to sift us as wheat.

1 Peter 5:8 "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walks about, seeking whom he may devour."

- But Jesus has been praying for Peter, just as He is now praying for us:

Romans 8:34 "Who is he that condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us."

- Notice that Jesus didn't pray that Peter would be delivered <u>from the trial</u> as opposed to being strengthened <u>through the trial</u>, that his faith wouldn't fail.

James 1:3-4 "[3]Knowing this, that the trying of your faith works patience. [4]Bt let patience have her perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing."

- We would certainly like to avoid being ground up by Satan, or the pain and difficulties of life, but they are what form our character and our witness, they drive us to a deeper place in the Lord and God uses them greatly in our lives.

Jeremiah 29:11 "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end."

- The trials that we go through will either draw us closer to the Lord, or if we allow them to they will drive us away from Him, it is our choice.

- So often the trials and difficulties that we go through do take us not only to a deeper place with the Lord, but they also enable us to minister to others who are experiencing the same things.

2 Corinthians 1:3-4 "[3]Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort. [4]Who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God."

V: 32b *"... When you have returned to Me / when you art converted..."* (could also be translated "turned again", or "return", "come back".)

- Peter isn't or hasn't been actually converted yet.

- Perhaps because he hasn't been broken yet, perhaps because his denial is still in front of him, or perhaps because he hasn't received the gift of the Holy Spirit yet – not sure why.

Philippians 3:12 "Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me."

Philippians 1:6 "Being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ."

Reading: Luke 22:31-71

V: 33-34 Peter thinks he's committed and ready, and ready to prove it! The other Gospels record that Peter objected, insisting that he was ready – relying on his own strength.

Matthew 26:35 "Peter said to Him, "Even if I have to die with You, I will not deny You!" And so said all the disciples." (Denying the Word of God)

2 Corinthians 12:9-10 "[9]And he said to me, My grace is sufficient for you: for My strength is made perfect in weakness. Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. [10]Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak then I am strong."

- Jesus knows what will soon happen and tells Peter.
- This is an astounding short term prophesy considering Peter's declarations and behavior, but still a part of the breaking process.
- God allows failures in our lives at times, it's part of His process in our lives.

Psalm 51:17 "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, You will not despise."

V: 35 After prophesying Peter's denials, his approaching lapse in faith, Jesus reminds the group of when they went out to do his will in the simplicity of faith, depending on Him alone.

2 Corinthians 1:12 "For our rejoicing is this, the testimony of our conscience, that we conducted ourselves in the world in simplicity and Godly sincerity, not with fleshly wisdom but by the grace of God, and more abundantly toward you."

- When Jesus commanded them to go, they went, and were taken care of, they lacked nothing.

Psalm 34:9 "Oh, fear the LORD, you His saints! There is no want to those who fear Him."

V: 36 The next time you go out it won't quite be the same – take your money bag, nap sack, and sword there may be need for these things. There will be want and suffering, and danger.

Proverbs 22:3 "A prudent man foresees evil and hides himself, but the simple pass on and are punished."

Matthew 9:14-15 "[14]Then the disciples of John came to Him, saying, why do we and the Pharisees fast often, but Your disciples do not fast? [15]And Jesus said to

them, can the friends of the bridegroom mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them? But the days will come when the bridegroom will be taken away from them, and they will fast."

- Things are going to change. One season transitions into another as Jesus prepares Himself and them for the cross and all that follows.

V: 37-38 The Messianic prophesies about the suffering of the Messiah and what He would endure are about to be fulfilled.

Quoting:

Isaiah 53:12 "Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the great, and He shall divide the spoil with the strong, because He poured out His soul unto death, and He was numbered with the transgressors, and He bore the sin of many, and made intercessions for the transgressors."

- As Jesus is speaking they come up with a couple of swords and He says that is enough. Two swords among a large group is defensive in nature, had they all been so armed they would appear threatening – and the Romans would deal with that. Even so it soon appears that they don't really know how to wield those swords.

- There is a Biblical case to be made for the use of deadly force & self defense.

V: 39 Coming out - of the upper room - Jesus heads to the Mount of Olives, *"as He was accustomed…"* - with His disciples following – that is what disciples do, they follow.

John 10:27 "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me."



- The Mt. of Olives was close to the Temple Mt., and the garden of Gethsemane (Olive press) was on the Western slope facing the Temple mount, all very close and convenient.

Pictures: Gethsemane









V: 40-53 All four Gospels describe the scene in the Garden of Gethsemane:

Matthew 26:36-57, Mark 14:26-52, Luke 22:39-53, John 18:1-13

- Harmony of the 4 accounts:

V: 40 Pray that you be not tempted:

1. Jesus and the disciples arrive at the Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus tells the majority of the group to sit and wait, taking Peter, James, and John a little farther and asking them to pray with Him. "That you enter not into temptation…"

- Besides petitions, there is a protective element to prayer, a prayer covering.

Psalm 17:5 "Uphold my steps in Your paths, that my footsteps may not slip."

Psalm 119:117 "Hold me up, and I shall be safe…"

V: 41-42

2. Jesus then goes a little farther and begins to pray in earnest.

3. Jesus prays essentially that if there is any other way, then let this cup pass from Him, but not My will done, but Thy will be done.

- If there is any other way. If mankind can be saved through any other means, through religion, through the keeping of the Law, by being good or moral, then let this cup pass.

- The cross of Jesus Christ says one thing very clearly – <u>there was no other way</u>!

John 14:6 "Jesus said, I am the way, the truth, and the life; no man comes to the Father except through Me."

V: 43-44 Being in agony: Considering the possibility of being separated from the Father.

Psalm 22:1 "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me? Why are You so far from helping Me, and from the words of My groaning?"

Isaiah 53:10 "Yet is pleased the LORD to bruise Him; He has put Him to grief. When You make His soul an offering for sin, He shall see His seed, He shall prolong His days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in His hand."

"Being in agony, He prayed more earnestly…"

James 5:16 "the effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much…"

- We see the fervency of our Lord to do His Father's will, and to save us in the process.

Hebrews 12:2 "Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that we set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God."

"Then His sweat became like great drops of blood…"

- Sweating in prayer speaks to fervency.

- There is a rare physical phenomenon known as **hematidrosis**, in which, under great emotional stress, the tiny blood vessels rupture in the sweat glands and produce a mixture of blood and sweat.

- The first Adam sinned in a Garden and was condemned to living by the sweat of his brow (**Genesis 3:19**). Jesus, the Last Adam, obeyed the Father in a Garden and conquered Adam's sin, by doing the will of the Father.

John 4:34 "My meat / food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work."

V: 45-46 Sleeping from "sorrow." (grief, pain, distress). They knew something was up.

4. Jesus returns to find the disciples sleeping – the other Gospels record that he only really chasten's Peter, who had bragged that he alone would be faithful.

Matthew 26:40 "Then He came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, "What? Could you not watch with Me on hour?"

- This will happen 3 times all together:

- Again, the admonition that prayer will keep them / us from temptation:

Psalm 19:13 "Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, and I shall be innocent of great transgression."

V: 47-48 The hypocritical "kiss of death".

Psalm 41:9 "Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, has lifted up his heel against me."

5. Jesus wakes everybody up in time for Judas to arrive with a large contingent of soldiers, priests, and servants who arrive with Judas identifying Jesus with a kiss.

Isaiah 53

6. John describes the initial encounter between Judas, the soldiers, and Jesus.

John 18:4-8 "4… whom are you seeking? 5They answered Him, Jesus of Nazareth. Jesus said to them, I am ~~*He*~~. And Judas, who betrayed Him, also stood with them. 6Now when He said to them, "I am ~~He~~." they drew back and fell to the ground. 7Then He asked them again, "whom are you seeking?" And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth."

V: 49-51

7. Matthew and Mark both describe one of the disciples drawing their sword and cutting off the ear of one of the High Priest's servants.

8. John's Gospel throws Peter under the bus as being the swordsmen, and Malchus as his victim.

   John 18:10 "Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's servant, and cut off his right ear. The servant's name was Malchus.

9. Jesus heals Malchus' ear, "[51]He touched his ear, and healed him"

10. The other Gospels describe Jesus rebuking Peter the sword swinging disciple indicating He has all the resources to defeat the Priests and soldiers if He wanted to.

    Matthew 26:52-54 "[52]But Jesus said to him, "put your sword in its place, for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. [53]Or do you think that I cannot now pray to My Father, and He will provide Me with more than twelve legions of angels? [54]How then could the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must happen thus?"

    John 18:11 "So Jesus said to Peter, "put your sword into the sheath. Shall I not drink the cup which My Father has given Me?"

- In Christ's kingdom, victories are not won by carnal means:

2 Corinthians 10:4 "For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds."

11. Mark tells us that all the disciples forsook Jesus and that one young disciple, probably John Mark fled the scene naked.

Mark 14:50 "Then they all forsook Him and fled."

V: 52-53 Jesus submitted to them but at the same time questioned them – why didn't you arrest me before – He knew the answer – they were afraid.

- This was the timing of the events from the beginning of time.

V: 54-58 Luke's account doesn't really describe the mock trial that took place – it spends more time on Peter's denial.

- Peter's denial didn't just happen, there were 6 steps, 6 things that led up to it:

1. **Matthew 26:33** Peter was over confident & proud. (Proverbs 16:18)
2. **Matthew 26:35** Peter denied or ignored the Word of God.
3. **Matthew 26:40** Peter was sleeping when he should have been praying.
4. **Matthew 26:51** Peter was taking action when he should have been praying.
5. **Matthew 26:58** Peter was following at a distance when he should have been closer.
6. **Mark 14:54 / Luke 22:55** Peter was hanging out with the enemy in his camp, warming himself at the enemies fire.

Psalm 1:1 "Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful."

- *"56with Him"* – *"58of them"* – Very often we're identified by who we hang out with.

- Who is Peter hanging out with at the moment? What is he doing? Denying Christ.

1 Corinthians 15:33 "Be not deceived: evil company corrupt good manners."

- <u>Belvedere</u> – Caiaphas & Annas' houses are still there.

Pictures:       

V: 59-62 Jesus prediction was true, they always are.

Mark 14:71 "Then he began to curse and swear, "I do not know this Man of whom you speak!"

"60… while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed."

- Jesus and Peter's eyes met.

- The word *"62bitterly"* means literally "gut wrenching"

- This is the beginning to the road to recovery, restoration:

2 Corinthians 7:10 "For Godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death."

- The difference between apostasy and backsliding is manifest in the difference between Judas and Peter, repentance.

- Judas was remorseful, but not truly repentant. It appears that he didn't even know Jesus. If he had he would have known to go back to Jesus, wherever he was and sought His forgiveness – which would surely have been given. Instead he went out and hung himself, sealing his fate.

- Fortunately this isn't the end of the story for Peter.

Right back to the beginning:

Matthew 5:3-9 "[3]Blessed are the poor in spirit, (Peter is there) for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. [4]Blessed are they that mourn: (Peter is there too) for they shall be comforted. [5]Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth. [6]Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled. [7]Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy. [8]Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God. [9]Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God."

1 John 1:9 "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

- After Jesus' resurrection Peter is restored:

John 21:15-17 "[15]So when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love[a] Me more than these? He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love[p] You." He said to him, "feed My lambs." [16]He said to him again a second time, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love[a] Me?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love[p] You." He said to him, "tend My sheep." [17]He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love[p] Me?' Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, "do you love Me?" And he said to Him, "Lord, You know all things; You know that I love[p] You." Jesus said to him, "feed My sheep."

Acts 2:14, 41 "[14]But Peter, standing up with the eleven, raised his voice and said to them, "men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and heed my words." - "[41]Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them."

V: 63-65 The abuse. It hurts to read these words as they describe what they did to our Lord, what I did to my Lord, what we caused because of our sin.

V: 66-71 Who's in control here?

Matthew 26:63-64 "[63]But Jesus kept silent. And the high priest answered and said to Him, I put You under oath by the living God: tell us if You are the Christ, the Son of God! [64]Jesus said to him, "it is as you said,…"

- Caiaphas invokes the authority of God: Jesus answers. “Yes, I am the Messiah”. They didn’t like His answer, or what He added to it.

- They accuse Jesus of blasphemy, claiming to be the Son of God

- He then is led from Caiaphas’ house to his son in law, Annas, the official high priest for a public sentencing in daylight, then from there to Pontius Pilate.