

Matthew 26:1-35 - Sermon Notes - January 2, 2022

FINAL DAYS

- here we are at the first service of a New Year
- it was almost a year ago that we began our journey through the Gospel of Matthew
 - the first message was January 24, 2021
- at this point we have come to the end of the public ministry of Jesus, and now enter His final week and days, leading up to the point for which He had really come

1. THE PLOT TO KILL JESUS

(1-2) THE SON OF MAN WILL BE DELIVERED AND CRUCIFIED

- when Jesus had finished = this marked the end of the public teaching and preaching of Jesus
 - Passover = an annual event celebrating the deliverance of Israel from the slavery and bondage of Egypt
 - Josephus tells us that upwards of 250,000 lambs were killed during Passover

(3-5) MEETING TO DISCUSS HOW TO TAKE JESUS PRIVATELY

- Caiaphas was the high priest appointed by the Romans
- his father-in-law, Annas was the high priest, but was removed by the Romans
- both men were Sadducees
- according to Josephus, Caiaphas was removed by Vitellius, and later died in disgrace and shame
- notice their plan = plotting and trickery
 - how many times have you and I used those same kind of things to get what we want!
- the religious leaders were doing everything they could to keep this from happening on the day of Passover, but they had no clue that they weren't in control of anything!

2. MARY ANOINTS JESUS

(6) JESUS AT THE HOUSE OF A LEPER

- Simon the leper must have been one who had been healed by Jesus. Otherwise, he would have lived in a leper colony outside the city limits.

(7) ANOINTED WITH COSTLY PERFUME

- very costly = John tells us that this perfume was thought to be valued at “three hundred denarii” (about a year’s worth of wages, [John 12:5](#)).

- we know from [John 12](#) that this was Mary, the sister of Martha and Lazarus

- Mary had found the place of worship they we need to find
 - sitting at his feet ([Luke 10:39-42](#))
 - giving her best at the feet of Jesus

- Let's talk a little bit about worship--

- Look at what Mary was willing to give
 - David said, “I will not give to the Lord that which costs me nothing
- worship is not something that should be only when it is convenient
- The bible says let the lifting up of my hands be as the evening sacrifice
- The bible also speaks of the sacrifice of praise

(8-13) THE DISCIPLES COMPLAIN

- notice the reaction of the disciples

- she has done a good work

- anything that we do for Jesus is a good work

- what Mary did was in preparation for the burial of Jesus, and would be spoken of as a memorial for the whole world to hear

3. JUDAS MAKES A DEAL TO BETRAY JESUS

(14-16) JUDAS MEETS WITH THE CHIEF PRIESTS

- the name Judas means “praise”

- Iscariot would associate him with the wealthy, educated region of southern Israel

- what caused Judas to betray Jesus

- some say that it was disappointment
 - how many people give up on Jesus because of some disappointment with him

- thirty pieces of silver was the price paid in the Old Testament for a slave who was gored to death by an ox

- What a contrast between Mary and Judas.

- Mary is concerned about giving extravagantly to Jesus.
- Judas is concerned about getting what he can from Jesus.

4. CELEBRATING PASSOVER

(17-20) PREPARATIONS OF THE PASSOVER

(21-25) EATING THE PASSOVER MEAL

- describe the way a table was set up in those days

- as they were eating, Jesus says that one of the twelve would betray him
- each one asked if it were them
 - we each should realize that we all have that potential

5. THE LORD'S SUPPER

(26-29) A NEW COVENANT

- the beginning of what we call the Lord's Supper
- a new covenant, sealed in the blood of Jesus
- the Lord's Supper is a reminder to us of two things--
 - the death of the Lord
 - His coming again
- Jesus said that he would not drink of the cup again until we all do it together in the kingdom of God

(30) SINGING A HYMN

- this would be one of the Hallel Psalms (Psalm 116-118)

6. PETER'S DENIAL FORETOLD

(31-32) ALL THE DISCIPLES WILL STUMBLE

- Jesus quotes here from [Zechariah 13:7](#)
- all of the disciples will flee
- yet, Jesus reminds them of His resurrection
- after His resurrection, He will meet them in Galilee
 - this is amazing → Jesus does not give up on the disciples even though they will desert Him
 - the promise of the Lord is that He will never leave nor forsake us!

(33-35) PETER'S RESPONSE

- if we look closely at this and the verses that follow, we see actions of Peter that would lead to that Peter's denial of the Lord
- the first step to failure = confidence in the flesh