

Matthias Chosen to Replace Judas

Acts 1:12-14 Then returned they unto Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is from Jerusalem a sabbath day's journey. 13 And when they were come in, they went up into an upper room, where abode both Peter, and James, and John, and Andrew, Philip, and Thomas, Bartholomew, and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon Zelotes, and Judas the brother of James. 14 These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren.

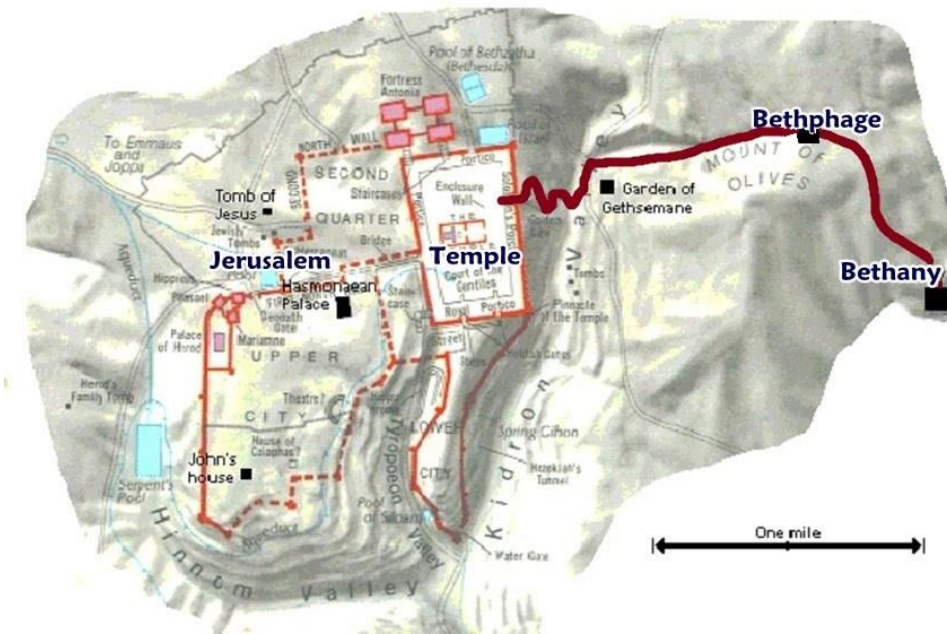
.v12 mount Olivet... The events from verse 4 to verse 8 occurred on mount Olivet, in Bethany. Which is about a mile outside of the temple, *a Sabbath days journey*.

A sabbath day's journey... If these events occurred on a sabbath, everything would have been according to God's plan - always the right distance - at the right time. The events of the Ascension occurred 10 days prior to Pentecost and 50 Days this side of the Feast of First Fruits.

Luke 24:50-53 And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them. 51 And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven. 52 And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy: 53 And were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God. Amen.

Mark 11:1 *And when they came nigh to Jerusalem, unto Bethphage and Bethany, at the mount of Olives, he sendeth forth two of his disciples,*

Acts Chapter 1:12-26



The period called 'the omer' begins the day following the weekly sabbath during the Feast of Unleavened Bread, which is the first day of the Feast of First Fruits, and ends on the Feast of Weeks (Pentecost). The period between these feasts is 7 weeks + one day. The word Pentecost literally means means fifty, as in fifty days. **Lev 23:15-22**

Our Lord rose from the grave, the first Day of the Week, on the Feast of First Fruits (a Sunday), It was the Day Following the weekly sabbath (Which Starts Friday at 6pm and Ends Saturday and 6pm).

Sunday, the day following the weekly sabbath, would have started the counting of the omer – 1. The Next Sunday would have been 8, then the next Sunday 15, then 22, then 29, and then 36. Another four days would be 40 Days from the Resurrection (see **Acts 1:3**) and would be a Thursday – And if we give the Lord one day to start teaching after his Resurrection (**John 20:19**), Friday at 6PM begins the Weekly Sabbath.

Our Lord led the Apostles out onto the Mount of Olivet, just far enough to keep their return trip "legal" in the site of the ruling religious leaders.

.v13 where abode both... The apostles were from Galilee, this upper room was an "air BnB" where they lived while they stayed in Jerusalem.

.v14 One Accord... To have 120, men and women, in one accord takes a spiritual work.

Acts Chapter 1:12-26

*Acts 1:15-19 And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples, and said, (the number of names together were about an hundred and twenty,) 16 Men and brethren, this scripture must needs have been fulfilled, which the Holy Ghost by the mouth of David spake before concerning Judas, which was guide to them that took Jesus. 17 For he was numbered with us, and had obtained part of this ministry. 18 Now this man purchased a field with the reward of iniquity; and falling headlong, he burst asunder in the midst, and all his bowels gushed out. 19 And it was known unto all the dwellers at Jerusalem; insomuch as that field is called in their proper tongue, *Aceldama*, that is to say, *The field of blood*.*

.v15 in those days... This would be within the 10 days between our Lord's Ascension, and Pentecost. The total number of believers at this time was 120 people, both men and women. Mary the mother of Jesus was there, along with Jesus' brothers - see verse 14.

This is the last time Mary is mentioned in the Bible. Joseph was last mentioned when Jesus was 12 years old. We know that he was around and influenced Jesus because he passed on the carpentry trade to his son and raised him in the Jewish traditions and spiritual observances - but he is not mentioned after Luke 2. Jesus had earthly parents as well as earthly brothers.

In other words, Mary was NOT a perpetual virgin.

.v16 this scripture must needs have been fulfilled... Peter stands with the "keys of the kingdom" to fill the kingdom position (Acts 1:6) that was vacated by Judas when he fell into perdition. *Everything that is done in the book of Acts is done "according to scripture"*.

Matthew 16:17-19 And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. 18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. 19 And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

Acts Chapter 1:12-26

...the Holy Ghost... Is it the Holy Ghost that both writes and interprets scripture.

2 Peter 1:21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

Judas was a guide those that arrested Jesus. He stood on Jesus' right hand, he was judged and his repentance was not heard. Peter stands to let "another take his office"

John 18:3 Judas then, having received a band of men and officers from the chief priests and Pharisees, cometh thither with lanterns and torches and weapons.

Psalms 109:6-8 Set thou a wicked man over him: and let Satan stand at his right hand. 7 When he shall be judged, let him be condemned: and let his prayer become sin. 8 Let his days be few; and let another take his office.

Luke 22:25-30 And he said unto them, The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and they that exercise authority upon them are called benefactors. 26 But ye shall not be so: but he that is greatest among you, let him be as the younger; and he that is chief, as he that doth serve. 27 For whether is greater, he that sitteth at meat, or he that serveth? is not he that sitteth at meat? but I am among you as he that serveth. 28 Ye are they which have continued with me in my temptations. 29 And I appoint unto you a kingdom, as my Father hath appointed unto me; 30 That ye may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

The kingdom was in prospect, and one who was to rule has now "gone to his own place"; this to establish order, Judas has to be replaced. Peter used both scripture, and the authority that Jesus gave him to fill, the vacancy.

Matthew 10:1 And when he had called unto him his twelve disciples, he gave them power against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease.

Acts Chapter 1:12-26

Acts 1:20 For it is written in the book of Psalms, Let his habitation be desolate, and let no man dwell therein: and his bishoprick let another take.

.v20 It is written... As we have covered, everything that is happening in the book of Acts is according to scripture, as part of the revealed plan. The place where Judas died is called *Acedama* - the field of blood - and was previously known as the "ravine of Hinnom". **Jos_15:8**.

"It had been the place where the idolatrous Jews burned their children alive to Moloch and Baal. A particular part of the valley was called Tophet, or the "fire-stove," where the children were burned". Amo_5:26; Act_7:43.

This valley is associated with two ideas: (1) of the sufferings of the victims sacrificed there; and (2) of filth and corruption. *It became thus to the popular mind a symbol of the abode of the wicked hereafter.*



...bishoprick... Meaning the office of a "bishop". *An overseer; a spiritual superintendent, ruler or director.* The twelve Apostles were to be the overseers of the coming Kingdom, and God made provisions for Judas' replacement.

Acts Chapter 1:12-26

Acts 1:21-25 Wherefore of these men which have companied with us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, 22 Beginning from the baptism of John, unto that same day that he was taken up from us, must one be ordained to be a witness with us of his resurrection. 23 And they appointed two, Joseph called Barsabas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthias. 24 And they prayed, and said, Thou, Lord, which knowest the hearts of all men, shew whether of these two thou hast chosen, 25 That he may take part of this ministry and apostleship, from which Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place.

.v21 wherefore... Peter is going to layout the guidelines for who is to replace Judas.

(1) he must have been in the company of the 11

(2) beginning with the baptism of John

(3) until the day in which Jesus was taken up (see Acts 1:9), *within the last ten days.*

Only TWO were qualified (see **Jn 15:27**), and Paul was not one of them!

John 15:27 And ye also shall bear witness, because ye have been with me from the beginning.

Acts 1:26 And they gave forth their lots; and the lot fell upon Matthias; and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

.v21 Mathias...Mathias means the "gift of God".

Proverbs 16:33 The lot is cast into the lap; but the whole disposing thereof is of the LORD.

The lot is not gambling or voting, is it trusting in God. Albert Barnes said:

"Thus, David divided the priests by lot, 1Ch_24:5. The land of Canaan was divided by lot, Num_26:55; Jos. 15; Jos_16:1-10; Jos. 17; etc. Jonathan, son of Saul, was detected as having violated his father's command. and as bringing calamity on the Israelites by lot, 1Sa_14:41-42. Achan was detected by lot, Jos_7:16-18. In these instances the use of the lot was regarded as a solemn appeal to God for his direct interference in cases which they could not themselves decide."