

Luke's Gospel – An Inclusive Savior Lesson Twenty

[Luke 22:1-53].....Betrayal, Supper, and Arrest

vs.2 Irony: The priests and law teachers cannot harm Jesus because he's protected by the crowds, but they turn on Jesus in Chapter 23

vs.3 *Iscariot* is used to separate him from the other Judas of the twelve
Satan is seen for the first time since chapter 4 when he leaves Jesus until an "opportune time"

Satan's opportunity is through Judas

What was Judas' motivation for betraying Jesus? Was it greed, disappointment, his destiny, to force a political crisis?

NOTE: Judas *was* one of the disciples Jesus chose!

vs.6 The deal was to hand Jesus over when there was no crowd present

vs.7-13 There's a definite danger here: There are NO crowds.

Passover Meal - bread, wine, bitter herbs, and an unblemished lamb (approved by a priest; no broken bones; blood was drained; roasted whole and fully consumed)

Represented the death angel "passing over" the homes of those who had the lamb's blood smeared on the door posts. Reminded them of Egyptian enslavement and Israelites flight to freedom.

This meal was highly optimistic and focused on the future (food to be eaten before leaving for the promised land)

vs.14- 20 There is a problem with the order - cup, bread, cup

Luke is doing two things here - he's combined two traditions:

1.) Vs.15-18: The meal is associated with the Passover by fulfillment (vs.16) and "end times" (eschatological) orientation (vs.18).

It looked to the coming kingdom of God and life with Christ.

2.) Vs.19-20: This is atonement language - Jesus' sacrifice is the atonement for our sins. This is the language similar to what Pastor Rice uses during communion.

vs.17-20 This meal is governed by the image of the Passover. (Lamb sacrificed for sin was another ritual)

NOTE: Luke's gospel was written for the benefit of the Gentiles. This is a way Luke explained the Passover to non-Jews in reference to Christ

vs.21-23 Judas' acts of betrayal come after the meal in Luke, but much earlier in Matthew and Mark. Why? Two reasons:

1.) Answers the question of whether or not Judas received the meal
Luke's gospel shows a prodigal son, tax collectors, a dying thief, and crucifiers receiving forgiveness. Even a betrayer can receive the bread and cup

2.) Adds a sharper focus on Judas' betrayal. Judas' act violates the *new* covenant of Jesus' body and blood

vs.24-28 "Who's the Greatest?" Greatness in the kingdom of God is not measured as it is in the world.

The *youngest* could refer to the young men who would perform duties in

the early church(Acts 5:6,10) or Jesus could be referring to himself at the age of 33

- vs.29-30 The one who *serves* IS Jesus who came to serve not be served
The disciples receive the promise of being at the messianic banquet and judging the 12 tribes of Israel for they'd endured the trials of Christ
- vs.35-38 Jesus is stating that the church will be tested and they will need all that they have learned and received to survive
The "sword" Jesus is referring is of a spiritual nature; a symbol of conflict and death
The disciples misunderstand and bring two swords. Jesus' response is one of weariness about their blindness rather than approval
- vs.47-53 Jesus is talking to the disciples about their sleeping when the "preachers" show up
The crowds have kept Jesus safe from this group - Jesus is a public person
Judas' sells Jesus' solitary place
Judas tries to kiss Jesus(Matthew & Mark say he does kiss Jesus); a disciple(John says it was Peter) tries to defend Jesus by cutting off the ear of a servant of the high priest
Jesus's betrayer uses a form of affection (kiss) & Jesus' friend uses an instrument of violence (sword) - Jesus puts an end to both.
- vs.52-53 Jesus confronts them with the truth. "Why now?" Because dark deeds need to be covered by darkness. And he's arrested.

NEXT LESSON: Chapters 23 & 24