

## Matthew 26:1-16—The King Anointed and Betrayed

- **Intro**
  - 4th prediction of his own death—gets very specific (in 2 days!)
  - v.1—“all these sayings”—Jesus’ death and resurrection is the CLIMAX of it all!
- **The Timing: Jesus Delivered Up at Passover (1-4)**
  - **Delivered at Passover**—gives us a huge insight into the PURPOSE of Jesus’ death
    - Yearly celebration of God’s deliverance of his people from slavery in Egypt. Israel was SPARED judgement by being covered in the blood of the lamb.
      - Israel cried out for a deliverer and God sent Moses. Pharaoh would not let them go. God sends a plague and Pharaoh would not comply. Final plague was that God would visit Egypt with judgement by death of firstborn. God provided Israel with a way of salvation—every family was to sacrifice a lamb and mark their doors with it’s blood. When God passed through Egypt with judgment, every house covered in the blood would be PASSED OVER.
    - That very night, Egypt was judged, Israel was spared, and Israel marched out of Egypt in freedom! God then commanded Israel to repeat that celebration every year to remember. We celebrate Christmas and Easter...Israel celebrated Passover!
    - Now, after centuries of acting out that story, God has chosen for his own Son to be sacrificed and his blood poured out for the deliverance of his people!
      - Why would Jesus die? What could possibly be the purpose of dying if he came to save? Jesus’ answer—by my death and the covering of blood—I am the Lamb of God, and that is how the guilty will be forgiven!
      - Next week—Jesus will transform how they celebrate Passover by instituting the Lord’s Table as he gives a new meal of remembrance and shows them where true salvation is
    - Jesus is the innocent one who dies in the place of sinners—Every bit of the sacrifices in the OT were pointing to him!
      - Heb. 10:14—by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.
    - Consider the amazing love of God for us in Jesus! The Triune, Eternal God planned this great salvation so that YOU and ME could be saved and delivered from slavery to SIN. Aren’t you glad you are free from slavery to sin and death!? May we never grow stale or familiar to how amazing and scandalous all God did to save us! Jesus allowed himself to be delivered up FOR US. He didn’t have to but allowed himself to be crucified! He chose the cross FOR OUR SAKE!!!
      - 2 Cor. 5:21—FOR OUR SAKE, he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.
      - Jesus bore the wrath and judgement of God so that we might become the righteousness of God! Oh what love! All our sin...every one (YES THAT SIN THAT COMES TO YOUR MIND RIGHT NOW...is forgiven in the death of Christ!)
      - Jesus SAVES his people FROM their sin by becoming the SACRIFICE FOR their sin.
        - We were dead sinners due judgement, but b/c of mercy, we will be PASSED OVER!
- **The Betrayal: The Treachery of Judas (14-16)**
  - v.3—the leaders were plotting to arrest Jesus. Seems Judas comes forth as part of plan! They think it needs to be AFTER the Passover.
  - v.1-2—Jesus will be delivered DURING Passover—Jesus knows more about how the leader’s plot will go down than they do!
    - God’s sovereign purposes stand above man’s stealth plans. God is in total control even in the face of human wickedness. You can have a top secret meeting to destroy Jesus and yet Jesus knows more about your plan than you do! He is KING!
    - “after 2 days”—Jesus is not a victim; he’s not just RECEIVING things the sequence of events...he is sovereignly DRIVING them!

- v.15—“what will you give me”
  - Lots of theories on Judas’ motivation—disappointed Jesus wasn’t political revolutionary; greedy (John 12—Judas a thief who would steal out of Jesus’ ministry money bag; John says Judas was most outraged with ointment was poured on Jesus); Luke 22 (Judas was influenced by Satan when he sought to betray Jesus)
    - Remember there is EVIL in the world. It doesn’t stop even around Jesus
    - We must remember that the same evil in Judas lives in seed form inside us! The seed of sin that led Judas to betray Jesus can lead us into all sorts of despicable wickedness. We aren’t inherently better than Judas!
  - Commentator—Judas represents all who follow Jesus for what he can give them rather than just serving.
    - There will come a day, though, when what it’s costing to follow Jesus is outweighing what he is offering in return.
    - See him as the true treasure. It’s not Jesus + what he gives but JUST JESUS!
- The Anointing: A Beautiful Act of Worship (6-13)
  - Woman—who is she?—not sure but likely Mary, the sister of Lazarus (from John 12)
  - Irony
    - Judas willing to BETRAY Jesus for 30 pieces of silver; Judas concerned about what HE CAN GET from Jesus.
    - Woman willing to pour out this ointment on Jesus as an act of devotion and worship; this woman POURING OUT what she has on Jesus in worship
  - “poured it” = anointed him—people would commonly anoint guests with a small amount of oil but to anoint this way was culturally reserved for Kings (Samuel anointing David).
    - Extravagant—a flask full of very expensive oil! You can tell it was extravagant by how upset the people get who watch it!
      - “very expensive ointment”—nard from India worth a year’s wages for a working man
      - Costly—this flask had to be BROKEN to be poured out (would spoil quickly)—not like eating on fine china but like popping the cork on a \$10,000 bottle of wine (you HAVE to drink it or it will spoil)—what would you do if your wife popped that cork on a simple dinner with cousin Eddy!? “WAAIIIIITTTTT!! NOOOOO!!! Don’t waste it!!”
  - “wasted”—what the world and even other Christians see as wasted may very well be your most faithful act of worship.
    - You can NEVER waste something when you pour it out in worship toward the one of inestimable, infinite value!!
      - Sacrifices, suffering, persecution you endure that you fear was “wasted time” WAS NOT WASTED, if done out of faithfulness and obedience to Jesus.
        - It is not wasted—IT IS A BEAUTIFUL THING!!
      - “could have been sold and given to the poor”—Our problem—we are TOO results driven!! “RESULTS” do not determine faithfulness. Just because you did something, gave up something, stepped out and there weren’t “results” does mean it was wasted
    - “prepare for burial”—this demonstration highlights the inestimable value of Christ’s death/resurrection...securing salvation for God’s people.
      - “gospel”—Jesus’ death and resurrection = GOOD NEWS. Believer—his death and resurrection mean WRATH passes over. Unbeliever—his death and resurrection mean NO SIN has to enslave you any longer!! There is GOOD NEWS of rescue for us all!
      - Why is it a “beautiful thing”—because of Jesus’ great worth as the Son of God and the inestimable value of his death on the cross—there’s no ointment valuable enough to rightly measure up to that value!! We can break and pour out the flasks of our lives in worship to Jesus because His body was broken and blood poured out for our salvation!
  - Closing:
    - Let’s WASTE OUR LIVES in worship to Jesus! C.T. Studd—“only one life, twill soon be past, only what’s done for Christ will last.”