

MARK 14:12-25

INTRODUCTION...

- **Mark** – the Gospel to the Gentiles – showing Jesus as the servant of all - **Mark 10:45**
- **MARK 10-12 - THE FINAL TRIP TO JERUSALEM...**
- **CHAPTERS 13** – Jesus teaching on the end times
 - Jesus teaches the disciples there on the Mt. of Olives about the ‘Last Days’...
 - Be ready – the rapture of the church will happen in a day and hour we least expect
- **CHAPTERS 14:1-11** – Preparing for the Cross
 - Preparing the Disciples – vs. 1-2
 - Jesus told His disciples in 2 days he would be crucified – on Passover
 - Israel’s religious leaders begin to plot when and how to kill Him
 - Preparing for His burial – vs. 3-9
 - Mary – who sat at Jesus’ feet – poured expensive oil in preparation for his burial
 - Judas was indignant – could have been sold for the poor – really he wanted it
 - Because Mary gave her all to Jesus – she understood His Word
 - Preparing for His betrayal – vs. 10-11
 - Judas went to the Religious leaders – could no longer make money off of Jesus
 - Sold his eternal reward in heaven – for about P1,500
 - Foretold by Zachariah – Jesus knew who would betray him...

THE PASSOVER...

- **PREPARING FOR THE PASSOVER... VS. 12-16**
 - Peter and John asked Jesus where he wanted to celebrate the Passover...
 - Jesus tells them to go into Jerusalem and there they would find a man with a pitcher...
 - They were to follow him to a house – and prepare for the Passover in his Upper Room...
 - **Sometimes God asks us to do things – that don’t seem to make much sense...**
 - **Following Jesus – sticking your head in a mail box – saving someone’s life...**
 - **Even if we do not understand – it all works out for the best if we obey the Lord!**
- Timeline of the Last supper – Crucifixion - Resurrection...
 - We are familiar with the Passover Feast by a different name – ‘The Last Supper’...
 - We assume this feast took place on Thursday evening because...
 - Jesus was crucified on Black Friday – or was He...
 - Jesus said He would be 3 days & 3 nights in the grave – **Mark 10:34**
 - It was also stated at the trial of Jesus – **Mark 15:29, John 2:19**
 - If you count 3 days from Friday – you don’t end up at Sunday morning
 - The day after the Sabbath...
 - No where in the Bible does it say Jesus was crucified on Friday...
 - A Friday crucifixion is a church tradition – one that most likely started with...
 - **Mark 15:43** – we are told Jesus was buried the day before the Sabbath
 - The Jewish Sabbath was on Saturday – so Jesus must have died on Friday...
 - EXCEPT it turns out Saturdays were not the only Jewish ‘Sabbath days’...

- The 'Week of Feasts' – Unleavened bread / Passover / First Fruits – **Leviticus 23**
 - The Jews use a completely different calendar than the one we use
 - During their 1st month of the year – Nisan (*our May/April*) - they celebrated 3 feasts
 - 1st - The Feast of Passover – 14th day of the month (*Nisan*) - **Exodus 12:18**
 - 2nd - The Feast of Unleavened Bread – lasted for 7 days – from 15th – 22nd
 - Important - the 1st day of this feast – 15th - was a special 'Sabbath day'
 - So there were two Sabbaths during this special week of feasts!
 - This special Sabbath was THE "Sabbath" Jesus was buried the day before
 - 3rd - Feast of first fruits – first Sunday during this week of feasts
 - **Matthew 28:1**–“After the Sabbath[s], as the first day of the week began to dawn.”
 - After the two Sabbath days – on Sunday – Jesus was resurrected!
 - **I Corinthians 15:20**–“Now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have [died].”
- Timeline of the Last supper – Jesus crucifixion – Resurrection...
 - Tuesday – Jesus had the Last Supper – Passover – after which He was arrested
 - Wednesday – Jesus is tried and crucified (*Passover lamb*)
 - Thursday - The special Sabbath Day – 'Feast of Unleavened Bread'
 - Friday – Women prepare the spices for Jesus – **Luke 24:1**
 - Saturday – regular Sabbath day of rest - then 3 days after the crucifixion...
 - Sunday – first day of the week – 'Feast of First fruits' – Jesus Resurrection!
- Traditions vs. truth...
 - That does not mean we celebrate Jesus crucifixion on the wrong day – Friday...
 - The Biblical timeline does seem to point to a Wednesday crucifixion...
 - But it is not important what day Jesus died – it is that He dies for our sins
 - Yet so often we have traditions – and we do not even know why...
 - We believe a tradition – or superstition – because... (*that is the only reason*)
 - We do not take the time to find out if a tradition/superstition is true or not
 - That is why we study/read our Bibles – to learn what is true and why!
- **ONE OF YOU WILL BETRAY ME – A CALL TO REPENTANCE...VS. 17-21**
 - After Jesus had sat down for the Passover with all His disciples
 - He let them know – one of them would betray Him – He knew about Judas!
 - This is an interesting exchange – Jesus knew who would betray Him
 - Jesus could at anytime have told everyone it was Judas – could have stopped him
 - Yet we see instead Jesus asks questions – not trying to find who would betray Him
 - Not passing judgment – not condemning – but instead giving opportunity to repent...
 - More often than not we pass quick judgment when someone makes a mistake...
 - We like to give the Law – bring down justice – condemn those who sin...
 - But we see with Jesus a much more loving and gracious approach
 - Each of the Disciples answered, “Lord, it isn’t me?”
 - Anyone of the disciples could have been the betrayer – they were all sinners
 - We often tend to forget when others make mistakes – we are sinner as well...
 - We might think we could never – would never make that kind of mistake...
 - But the truth is we are sinners – and more than capable of any sin...

- And when we make mistakes – we don't want the Law – justice – we want GRACE
- If we remember that – we will be far gentler when others make mistakes...
- **Matthew 7:2**–“For others will treat you as you treat them. Whatever measure you use in judging others, it will be used to measure how you are judged.”
- He who dipped his hand with me in the dish...
 - In Jewish culture there are no spoons or forks – just bread
 - Everyone dips their bread into the various sauces and meats to eat
 - In a very personal – intimate way to share you food (*double dipping allowed*)
 - Jesus is offering His trust and friendship to the one who would betray Him
 - Right up to the last minute Jesus extended forgiveness and love to Judas...
 - If you know someone who is struggling with sin – give them the Love of Jesus!
 - They expect judgment – they expect to be shunned – they expect to be rejected
 - When instead they get God's Love – often it can change their heart!
 - **Romans 2:4**– “Knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance.”
- Woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed...
 - The betrayal of Jesus had been prophesied – **Zachariah 11:12-13**
 - It was going to happen – and it was part of God's plan of redemption...
 - None-the-less - better the one who would betray Jesus had never been born...
 - Jesus loved Judas – but He also was not going to hide the reality/truth...
 - And the price Judas would pay if he went through with his plans – was hell!
 - We are called to love others – with the goodness of God
 - That does not mean we lie to them – or hide the consequences of sin
 - We give them the truth in Love – tell them the truth because we Love them
 - **Galatians 6:7**–“God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.”
- Judas, who would betray Him, also asked, “Lord, it isn't me?”
 - Judas tried to act just like all the other disciples – gave the same answer...
 - As if somehow – after all Jesus said – Jesus did not know it was him!
 - He was still trying to keep up his act – still intent on his betrayal...
 - **Genesis 6:3** – “And the LORD said, "My Spirit shall not strive with man forever...”
 - Ultimately there comes a point then God will give someone their own way
 - If a person continually refuses to turn to the Lord – repent
 - There will come a point when God will give them what they want...
 - If someone is intent on refusing God – refusing to go to Heaven – intent on going to hell
 - If they want their sin more than God – God will not force them to change
 - But we do not know when that point is – only God knows
 - So we keep on loving them – hoping – praying – they still choose life!
- **John 13:26-30** – satan entered him...
 - Unwilling to repent – unwilling to change – Judas sealed his fate
 - Satan entered him – and Jesus said – “what you do, do quickly.”
 - It is hard to realize/accept not everyone will go to heaven...
 - Not because God does not want them to – God wants everyone to be saved
 - **II Peter 3:9** – “He does not want anyone to perish, so he is giving more time for everyone to repent.”

- But because they refuse the goodness of God – they refuse heaven

● COMMUNION... vs. 22-25

- Now that Judas was gone - the Lord completed the Passover meal...
- Jesus took the bread...
 - The bread was called Matzah - it is bread without leaven (*yeast*)...
 - The Matzah is always pierced and stripped
 - At Passover there are 3 pieces of Matzah – only the center piece is taken
 - The center piece of the Matzah is broken – then hidden (*buried*)
 - The broken piece is called the Afikomen – meaning ‘He who comes’
 - The matzah - Afikomen – is a picture of Jesus Christ
 - 3 pieces of Matzah – God the Father / God the Son / God the Holy Spirit
 - Without Leaven (*a picture of sin*) – Jesus is perfect – without sin
 - Pierced and Striped - **Isaiah 53:5** – “But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed.”
 - Jesus was broken for our sins (*the cross*) and buried that we might have life
 - That is why Jesus took the Afikomen and said...
 - **Luke 22:19** – “This is My body which is given for you...”
- Jesus then took the cup...
 - This was the 3rd of 4 cups that were part of the Passover celebration
 - Keddush (*blessings*) / Makkot (*plagues*) / Ha-Geullah (*redemption*) / Hallel (*praise*)
 - Jesus took the cup of Redemption – the Ha-Geullah and said...
 - **Luke 22:20** – “This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you.”
 - Jesus is the Passover Lamb of God – took away the sin of the world
 - He is the Matzah – the Afikomen - sinless bread of life – who is coming again
 - He is the Ha~Geulah – the One who has redeemed us through His blood!
- The New Covenant...
 - In His broken body and in His shed blood – He established a New Covenant!
 - We need to ask – if there is a New Covenant – what was the Old...
 - The Old Covenant was all about what we had to do – the ‘to do’ list...
 - It gave us 613 commands – all of which we had to follow – every day...
 - Example - prayer after every meal – **Deuteronomy 8:10**
 - If we made one mistake – broke even 1 law – we deserved judgment - **James 2:10**...
 - The New Covenant (*promise*) did away with the Old...
 - **Hebrews 8:13**–“When God speaks of a new covenant, it means he has made the first one obsolete. It is now out of date and ready to be put aside.”
 - It was the Covenant of ‘Better promises’ - **Hebrews 8:6**
 - God will write His word on our mind and in our hearts - **Jeremiah 31:33-34**
 - He will be our God - make us His people - forgive our sin and remember it no more!
 - The New (*better*) covenant is no longer about what we have to do
 - It is instead all about what God has already done for us...
 - Because Jesus body was broken – we no longer are under the Law (613)!
 - Because Jesus shed His blood – we have forgiveness of all our sins!

- Because Jesus was the Passover Lamb – we get to go to heaven forever!