

Luke 22

Luke 22.1-6

V1 – Originally a distinction was made between the two feasts, but by the First Century, they had become one celebration

V2 – From the parallel account in *Mark 14.2*, the Jewish leaders had decided to wait until after Passover to try to eliminate Jesus

-**Why wait?** Because of the crowds, especially Jews from Galilee and across the Jordan who would have been very sympathetic concerning Jesus

-**But why was it appropriate that Jesus die at the time of the Passover?** Because of the prophecies in *Isaiah 53*

V3 – **Did Judas have freedom of choice in betraying Christ?** See *Acts 1.25* – He went to "his own place" (in other words, the place of his own choosing)

-Judas was developing a problem with greed – See *John 12.4-8*

-It is possible that Judas was reacting to this criticism (he wanted revenge – to get even)

-**Read John 13.2 and 13.27**

-Satan tempted Judas, and Judas yielded (he could have chosen to escape from the temptation)

V4-5 – **Why were the temple officials happy?** They would not have to risk a riot – Jesus would be arrested at some private location

-**How much money was Judas to get for betraying Christ?** 30 pieces of silver (the current price for a slave)

V6 – Judas began to lay his plans – **Read Psalm 41.9** – a close friend would betray the Messiah

Luke 22.7-13

V7 – Jewish law said that no unleavened bread could be in the house during Passover (going back to the original Passover)

V8 – **What two apostles were sent to prepare the Passover feast?** Peter and John

V9 – **Why didn't Jesus celebrate the Passover at his house?** He didn't have a house – he had been spending the night on the Mount of Olives (*Luke 21.37*)

V10 – **What instructions did Jesus give them?** Follow a man with a pitcher of water

-**What was unusual about this?** Generally women carried the water (*John 4* – the woman at the well)

V11 – It is possible that the house was owned by a disciple of Jesus; possibly Jesus had made previous arrangements

V12 – **What part of the house?** The upper room (for Passover)

V 13 – All was done as Jesus had instructed (lamb slain, bitter herbs prepared, unleavened bread, grape juice, etc.)
-All was ready for the Passover Feast

Luke 22.14-33 - The Institution of the Lord's Supper

V 14 – **Posture?** Reclining

-Bring a copy of the painting of the Last Supper by Leonardo Da Vinci
-The painting is not correct – they were not sitting upright in chairs, but were in more of a reclining position, which was the custom in the First Century

V 15 – **What desire did Jesus have?** To eat this Passover with them before his death

-**Why would there be no need for Passover after the crucifixion?** **Read 1 Cor. 5.6-8** – Jesus became the Passover Lamb – a one-time sacrifice for all times

V 16 – Jesus would not celebrate the Supper again until the kingdom came

V 17 – **Was this a part of the Lord's Supper?** No, he was just passing around the drink as the final act of Passover, a custom of the Jews

V 18 – Again Jesus stated that there would be no Lord's Supper again until the kingdom came

V 19 – **The order of the Supper?** He took bread, gave thanks, broke it

-This is the answer to those who believe in transubstantiation (Catholics) – *1 Cor. 11.26* – Paul called it the bread

-One object can symbolize another object – *John 10.9* – Jesus called himself the "door"

-**What would be the purpose of the Lord's Supper?** To bring Christ to our remembrance

V 20 – **What did the fruit of the vine symbolize?** The new covenant and the blood that was shed for us

V 21 – **Were all the 12 apostles present at this time?** Yes

-See *John 13* for more details concerning when Judas left

V 22 – In accordance with the divine plan, Jesus would be the sacrifice for all mankind

-**What about the one who would betray Jesus?** Woe to him

V 23 – The apostles were shocked; a lively discussion

Luke 22.24-30

V 24 – **What did they argue over?** Who was the greatest?

-Previous occurrences of this question: *Matt. 18.1-4*, *Matt. 20.20-28*, *Luke 9.46-48*

-**What possibly had brought on this argument?** The mention of the coming kingdom (*v 18*)

-**What does this tell us about their view of the kingdom?** They were still looking for an earthly kingdom, a political kingdom

-**Is rank important today?** Yes, at presidential dinners, etc. – the seating arrangement is very

important, and there are full-time stewards who make sure that the order is correct for diplomats from around the world

-Rank is also important in the military, in the business world, in educational circles (Dean, Professor, Instructor, etc.)

V 25 – (*John 13* – the washing of feet seems to have occurred at this point)

-**How do political leaders act?** Each one tries to be the most powerful leader

V 26 – **What is to happen with the disciples of Christ?** We are to avoid the appearance of lordship

-Church work is not a case of gaining power

V 27 – **Who is greater – the one who eats or the one who serves?** The one who eats

-But Jesus seems to be serving them at this point

V 28 – The twelve apostles had suffered much by being faithful to Jesus

V 29 – **What was the basis of their being allowed into the kingdom?** Their service alongside Jesus (not how powerful they had become)

-**Had the kingdom been established yet?** No

V 30 – Possible interpretations:

1. The words of the apostles would judge the Jews (the apostles were superior to the Jews, just as the New Testament was superior to the Old Testament)
2. They would literally sit in judgment over the Jews in the Day of Judgment (see *1 Cor. 6.2-3*)
3. Their behavior would set the standard by which the rest of the world would be judged.

Luke 2.31-34

-**Why would this episode be recorded in all four gospels?** Because of the constant danger we are all in of falling away

V 31 – **Why did Jesus say "Simon" twice?** To emphasize this point and to get his attention

-Also "Peter" meant "rock" – Jesus used his other name to indicate that Peter is still human, still helpless and in a constant danger

-**What Old Testament incident does this remind us of?** Satan asking to test Job

-**Read 1 Cor. 10.13**

-Satan tempts us, but God will furnish some way to get out of that temptation

V 32 – Very interesting – predestination vs. foreknowledge

-Jesus knew that Peter would fall away, but he certainly did not cause it to happen

-In fact, he was praying for just the opposite

-**What was Peter to do once he came to his senses?** Restore the other disciples

-**Why would they need strengthening?** They all deserted Jesus also (except for John)

V 33 – Peter was still full of self-confidence

-People can be warned today, and still they fall away

-We often boast of what we will do and fail to consider the possibility that we will be the next victims of Satan

-When the situation actually arrives in our lives, we react differently from how we thought we

would react

V 34 – See brother Boles' comments, p. 422, for details on the cock crowing

- Jesus: Within 24 hours you will have denied me
- This ought to be a sober warning for all of us

Luke 22.35-38

V 35 – **What had they taken on the Limited Commission?** Nothing (*Luke 9.2*)

-**How were they supported then?** They depended on the goodness of people and the providence of God

-**Did they have any complaints about their needs being met on the Limited Commission?**
None

V 36 – **Why these items?** Because of the hostility of people (no support from the people)

- Also, to show the urgency of the situation
- Consider this question: **Why did he ask them to bring swords?**
- See *Matt. 26.52* – to show that the sword is not the way to go in the life of the Christian
- See *Isaiah 2.4* – The peaceful nature of the coming kingdom
- See *Isaiah 9.6* – Jesus was the "Prince of Peace," not the prince of violence

V 37 – *Isaiah 53.12* – **The worst and most ignominious form of death?** To be crucified (and between two thieves)

- There was no greater insult to a Jew

V 38 – We see Jesus descending into the dregs of life (into the criminal element) in fulfillment of prophecy

- These things (money bags, swords) symbolized that life
- Why only two swords? Could they have fought off the guards with only two swords?** No – Jesus was going to teach a lesson concerning the sword
- Besides, these apostles were not trained in physical weapons – they were mostly fishermen, not soldiers

Luke 22.39-46

V 39 – Jesus went to the Mount of Olives ("Olivet" in *Acts 1.12*)

V 40 – **What were the apostles to pray for?** That they would not be led into temptation

- Before any great test, we need to pray

V 41 – Jesus went into the garden alone

- His posture?** Kneeling
- According to parallel accounts, he later fell on his face because of the intense agony he felt
- See the *New International Commentary on Luke*, p. 574 for more details

V 42 – **What attitude did Jesus have in this prayer?** One of total humility

- God's will can be changed by the sincere and plaintive prayer of one of his children

-Examples?

- Abraham and the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah
- Hezekiah's prayer that he wouldn't die
- Moses prayed that God would not destroy the Israelites, etc.

V 43 – We don't know how the angel strengthened him

-Brother Boles gives 4 possibilities:

1. Giving sympathy
2. Giving words of cheer
3. Wiping away the sweat
4. Worshipping him to signify his lordship

Psalm 91.11 – Angels would minister to the Messiah

V 44 – Only Luke recorded this

- "Agony" was a medical term in the First Century
- Luke also records the sweating of Jesus – like drops of blood

V 45-46 – According to Matthew and Mark, he found them sleeping three times total

- What was the reason for their being asleep?** Because of sorrow
- We know from human experience that intense grief can be very tiring emotionally
- What is our greatest safeguard against temptation?** Prayer
- Remember the "Lord's Prayer": "*Lead us not into temptation*"
- By ourselves we are very weak in facing sin

Luke 22.47-53

V 47 – **How many Roman soldiers were there?** *John 18.3, 12* – a cohort or battalion (possibly several hundred soldiers)

- Who else was there?** *V 52* – chief priests and officers of the temple
- What does the "kiss" tell us about Judas?** Just how hardened he had become

V 48 – **How do we understand this question of Jesus?** A kiss for such a despicable deed, such hypocrisy

V 49 – **Read John 18.5** – The words of Jesus caused them all to fall back

- What question did the apostles ask?** Shall we attack with the sword?

V 50 – **Which apostle used the sword?** Peter, according to *John 18.20* – **Read John 18.1-11**

- Why did Peter hit the man's ear?** Probably because he was aiming for the man's head and missed!
- The apostles were not very good with violence

V 51 – **The reaction of Jesus to the use of the sword? Read Matt. 26.51-53**

- Violence is not the Christian way

V 52-53 – **The irony?** If they really believed that he was an evil man, why didn't they take him in public?

Luke 22.54-62

V 54 – **Where was Jesus taken?** To the house of the high priest (either Annas or Caiaphas – See brother Boles, p. 430)

-**Why did Peter follow at a distance?** He wanted to see what would happen, but didn't want to get involved

-We have people like that today in just about all congregations – they want to be known as Christians, but do not want to get involved

V 55 – According to *John 18.18*, it was cold (a reason for the fire)

-John knew the high priest (*John 18.15*)

-John probably arranged for Peter to be let into the courtyard

V 56 – **What does the servant girl say?** Peter was one of the disciples of Jesus

V 57 – **Peter's reply?** His first denial

-**Was this the same man who said v 33 only a few hours earlier?**

V 58 – Another person definitely identified Peter as a disciple of Christ

-**Peter's reply?** The second denial

-**Is this denial different from the first?** Yes, stronger

V 59 – According to *John 18.26*, a servant who was related to the one whose ear Peter had cut off identified him

-**How was he identified?** As a Galilean

-**How would they have known that?** By his accent from that part of the country (*Matt. 26.73*)

V 60 – **Read Matt. 26.74** – He cursed and lied

-**What happened at that point?** The cock crowed (as prophesied)

V 61 – How sad – how full of sorrow that look must have been for Peter!

V 62 – **The reaction of Peter?** Ran outside and wept bitterly

-We need more people with tender hearts, such as Peter had

-**What kind of lessons can be gained from Peter's experience?**

Luke 22.63-71

V 63 – Jesus was being treated as if he were a common slave

V 64 – More ridicule – Jesus didn't answer their slander

V 65 – **What sin were they committing?** Blasphemy

-**What is blasphemy?** Speaking evil of God's name or misusing God's name (see the Third Commandment in the Old Testament)

V 66 – The council could only take action during the day, but they had already decided (in secret) what

they were going to do

V 67 – **Why did they ask him the question?** To try to get him to incriminate himself

-**The reply of Jesus?** You wouldn't believe it if I proved it to you

-Some people are searching for the truth; some are not, even though they are asking questions

V 68 – It would not have done any good to answer them

V 69 – **What would be Christ's position?** Serving with God in power (at the right hand of God the father)

V 70 – He had called himself "Son of Man"

-Quoting from *Psalms 110.1* really answered their question, but they needed concrete evidence against him

-A point-blank question; Jesus answered in a Jewish idiom meaning "Yes"

V 71 – They now had evidence to kill him

-The Jehovah Witnesses say that Jesus was not deity, but the Jews clearly understood Jesus to be saying that he was God

Revised 2013-01-09