

Part 3

Lesson #13

PREPARATION FOR LESSON: Mt. 24:1 - 26:35; Mk. 13:1 - 14:25; Lk. 21:5 - 22:38; Jn. 13:1 - 14:31 or

Harmony of the 4 Gospels, SECTIONS 146 - 154

GETHSEMANE

Jesus' Conflict when He said, *let this cup pass from me*. His conflict is not about the physical, but the spiritual.

He knows that when He is on the cross...

...all the sin of the world will be dumped on Him.

...in His humanity, He will be separated from the Father and their relationship will be broken.

He knows the separation is both the penalty and the payment for sin. If He does not pay it, each of us will have to.

Three times He tells the Father if it is the only way, He is willing to do it.

Jesus' Arrest

There are at least 400 Roman soldiers (band); many Jewish temple soldiers; more than 20 from the Sanhedrin, and the servant of the high priest, acting as his representative.

Judas uses the commitment sign of discipleship as the sign of betrayal - a kiss on each cheek.

TRIAL

Annas was high priest from 7-14 AD.

He was removed by the Romans for corruption.

Thru bribery, power and influence, he has had 4 sons and a son-in-law named as high priest.

He controls the Sanhedrin and is head of the Passover market that Jesus disrupted 2 times in His ministry.

At the present time, his son-in-law Caiaphas is high priest.

Sanhedrin Only 23 of the 71 members are needed for a verdict (11 to acquit; 13 to convict).

They have 22 Mishnah laws to guide them in conducting fair trials and passing fair verdicts.

They break all 22 of these laws in their trial of Jesus.

Peter denies knowing Jesus; denies with an oath; and then denies with curses and swearing. (happens between 12:00-3:00 a.m.)

Judas He is *one headed for judgment* because he rejected Jesus as Messiah and deity. Jn. 17:12

His knowledge and privileges

He lived with Jesus and heard all His teaching; he saw the reality, perfection and power of Jesus.

He was given temporary abilities for ministry; he taught and worked miracles like the other apostles.

He was shown trust and given responsibility of being treasurer for the group.

His option: When he was on the wrong path, Jesus gave him an ideal environment so he could turn his life around.

But his desire for money and riches was greater than his desire to believe in and love Jesus.

His repentance The Greek word means *change of feeling*; he feels guilty and wants to get rid of his guilt.

It is not the Greek word meaning to *change one's mind and will* which is salvation repentance.

His freedom of choice He did not have to betray Jesus.

It was predicted someone would betray Jesus. But a name was never given, only a description.

It would be a person who followed Jesus, ate with Him and had some form of leadership.

It could have been any member of the Sanhedrin.

His end

The money used to buy lambs for temple sacrifices had been used to buy Jesus, the Lamb of God.

Judas threw the money on the ground of the Temple courtyard and then committed suicide.

His body was thrown over the city wall to the garbage dump below.

The returned money was used to buy land in the name of Judas as a cemetery for the poor.

Judas was the first to be buried in his cemetery.

Jewish nation The Roman senate removed the right of the Sanhedrin to use capital punishment 6-8 months earlier.

The Old Testament said the Messiah would die by crucifixion.

If Jesus had died one year earlier, He would have died under Jewish law by stoning.

This would have disqualified Him from being the Messiah.

Being condemned and dying under Roman law, means He **will** die by crucifixion.



TRIAL *continued*

Pilate Governor of Judea

He had offended the Jews by putting Roman shields on the outer walls of temple compound in 26 AD.
 He resented Herod Antipas who had reported him to Caesar.
 He is now under investigation by the Roman Senate for questions of loyalty to Rome.
 Sejanus, who got him the position of governor, has been executed for treason against Rome.
 It is why he responds to Jewish demands when they say, *if you release Jesus, you are no friend of Caesar.*

Herod Antipas Governor of Galilee; protector of the Temple area

He was son of Herod the Great; converted to Judaism to further his career; killed John the Baptist.
 Rome considers him an expert in Jewish affairs; a mediator during Jewish holy days.

Bar-abbas *son of the father*; his actual name was Jesus (Yeshua), a common Jewish name in the 1st century.

Origin's *Commentary on Matthew* plus other Jewish and Syrian texts.

Jesus, son of the father (Bar-abbas) is guilty of treason.

Jesus, the true Son of the Father, will be accused of treason and will die in his place; the one deserving death is freed.

Sanhedrin and people *His blood be on us and our children* Mt. 27:25 God's justice was confirmed in 70 AD, when they and their children were killed. Only the Jewish people of the 1st century were held responsible and punished.

DEATH

3 Hours of darkness From archeology, we know others wrote about this darkness.

A Greek writer Dionysius saw the darkness while in Heliopolis, Egypt; Heliopolis means *city of the sun*.
At noon, there was darkness in the "city of the sun".

A Greek scientist living in Egypt writes,

I saw a solar darkness of such like that either the deity himself suffered at that moment or sympathized with one that did. Diogenes

A Jewish man, Phlegon, writes from northern Turkey.

There was a great and remarkable eclipse of the sun above any that happened before. At the 6th hour, (Jewish time, noon), the day was turned into darkness of night so that the stars were seen in heaven. There was a great earthquake at Bithynium which overthrew many houses in Nice.

JEWISH ISSUES

Time **Jewish 24 hr. day** is from sundown to sundown; **hours** of the day start at **6:00** a.m. - 1st hour of the day is 7:00 a.m.

Roman 24 hr. day is from midnight to midnight; **hours** of the day start at **12:00** a.m. - 1st hour of the day is 1:00 a.m.

Matthew, Mark and Luke use **Jewish** time; John uses **Roman** time.

Cock-crowing does not mean a literal rooster; it means a bell or horn sounding at 12:00 a.m., 3:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m.

The sounding of each Roman watch was called a *cock-crow* and could be heard thruout the city.

Holy Days

Preparation Days When Passover fell on Friday, there were **2 Days of Preparation** in a row.

Thursday a.m. and afternoon was used to prepare the **Passover** meal (Seder).

Friday a.m. and afternoon was used to prepare for High **Sabbath** with extended Passover ceremonies.

Passover Lambs/Meals While the Temple existed, there were 2 Passover lambs killed and 2 Passover meals.

1st lamb was for **families**/groups; it was eaten after Thursday sundown which was the **beginning of Jewish Friday**.

2nd lamb was for the **nation**; the lamb was killed at **9:00 am on Friday** as the Passover sacrifice for the nation.

The high priest and priests on duty ate their Passover meal from the meat of that lamb on Friday afternoon.



Laws of the Sanhedrin Regarding Trials All 22 were broken in the trial of Jesus.

1. There was to be no arrest by religious authorities that was effected by a bribe. Ex. 23:8 cf. John 18:2
2. There were to be no steps of criminal proceedings after sunset. cf. John 18:3
3. Judges or Sanhedrin members were not allowed to participate in the arrest. cf. Lk. 22:52
4. There were to be no trials before the morning sacrifice. cf. John 18:12-13
5. There were to be no secret trials, only public, when they involved capital punishment. cf. John 18:20
6. Sanhedrin trials could only be conducted in the hall of judgment of the Temple compound. cf. Luke 22:54
7. The procedure was to be, first the defense and then the accusation. cf. Matt. 26:59
8. All could argue in favor of acquittal, but all could not argue in favor of conviction. cf. Matt. 26:59
9. 2-3 witnesses were needed; their testimony had to agree in every detail. Deut. 19:15 cf. Matt. 26:61; Mk. 14:56
10. There was to be no allowance for the accused to testify against himself. cf. Matt. 26:62
11. The High Priest was forbidden to tear his garments. Lev. 21:10 cf. Matt. 26:65
12. Charges could not originate with the judges; they could only investigate charges brought to them.
cf. Matt. 26:65
13. The accusation of blasphemy was only valid if he pronounced the name of God itself. cf. Matt. 26:65
14. A person could not be condemned on the basis of his own words alone. cf. Mk. 14:64
15. The verdict could not be announced at night; only in the daytime. cf. Mk. 14:64
16. In cases of capital punishment, the trial and guilty verdict could not occur at the same time, but had to be
separated by at least 24 hours. Mk. 14:64
17. Voting for the death penalty had to be done by individual count, beginning with the youngest, so that
the young could not be influenced by the elders. cf. Mk. 14:64
18. A unanimous decision for guilt showed innocence, since it would be impossible for 23-71 men to agree
without plotting. cf. Mk. 14:64
19. The sentence could only be pronounced 3 days after the guilty verdict. cf. Mk. 14:64
20. Judges were to be humane and kind. cf. Mk. 14:65
21. A person condemned to death was not to be scourged nor beaten beforehand. cf. Mk. 14:65
22. No trials are allowed on the eve of the Sabbath or on a feast day.

This information on the laws was taken from the Talmud and prepared for classes by
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APPLICATION *It has been finished. Tetelestai* is the Greek word.

This was an accounting term, meaning *paid in full, account closed*.

God keeps books on our lives. On all our account sheets there are lists of good deeds and lists of disobedience. We may have more good deeds than bad deeds, but there is still a problem. Heaven is perfect and God is perfect. So anyone who wants to spend eternity with God has to be perfect. That means we can never be good enough to make it. The penalty and payment for not being good enough is *separation from God* (spiritual death).

This is why Jesus came.

On the cross He was separated from the Father. He made the payment and put it on deposit with God the Father. Now we have a choice. We can make our own payment and be separated from the Father forever. Or we can ask God the Father to credit the payment of Jesus to our account. When we do, God the Father writes across our account sheet, *Paid in Full, account closed*.

He was separated from the Father, so if we accept **His** payment, we never have to be separated from the Father.

This is good news - the Gospel. It is the meaning of Easter.

