



CAPITOL COMMISSION

The Price of the King: What's He Worth to You?

MAY 4-6, 2011

David Andersen / PO Box 2020, Chesterfield, VA 23832 / 804-796-9411 / www.capitolcom.org

Matthew 26:1-16 *“And it came to pass when Jesus ended all these words, He said to His disciples, 2) ‘Ye know that with two days the Passover occurs, and the Son of Man is delivered up to be crucified.’ 3) Then the chief priests and the elders of the people were gathered together in the court of the high priest, named Caiaphas; 4) And they deliberated that by stealth they might seize and kill Jesus. 5) But they said, ‘Not at the feast, in order that no uproar may occur among the people.’ 6) But Jesus, being in Bethany at the house of Simon the Leper, 7) a woman approached Him having an alabaster vial of very expensive ointment, even poured it on His head as He was reclining at the table. 8) But seeing it, the disciples were indignant saying, ‘Why was this waste? 9) For this much could be sold and given to the poor!’ 10) But knowing, Jesus said to them, ‘Why do ye trouble the woman? For she has worked a good work to Me. 11) For always the poor ye have with yourselves, but Me ye have not always. 12) For in putting this ointment on My body, she did it toward My burial. 13) Amen I tell you, wherever this Gospel is preached in all the world, also what this woman did will be spoken for a memorial of her!’ 14) Then, one of the twelve which was named Judas Iscariot went to the chief priests, 15) he said, ‘What are ye willing to give me even if I deliver Him to you?’ So they weighed to him thirty pieces of silver. 16) And from then he sought opportunity in order that he might betray Him.”*

“THIS WOMAN'S OUTBURST OF AFFECTION, THIS SIMPLE-HEARTED ACT OF LOVE TO CHRIST HIMSELF, IS ONE OF THOSE THINGS WHICH ARE TO LIVE AS LONG AS THE GOSPEL LIVES. THE AROMA OF THIS LOVING DEED IS TO ABIDE AS LONG AS THE WORLD ITSELF ENDURES.” CHARLES SPURGEON

Why does Jesus predict so many specific details of His crucifixion? Did the Sanhedrin (Congress of Israel) plan another time and manner to kill Jesus Christ? How much did His disciples value their Messiah? Does greed to embezzle cause Judas Iscariot to betray?

FOCUS ON FUTURE SATELLITE BIBLE STUDIES:

- MAY 11-13: MATTHEW 26:17-30 THE LAST PASSOVER
- MAY 18-20: MATTHEW 26:31-35 SHEEP WITHOUT A SHEPHERD

The last teaching discourse was now completed as He had solidified in the disciple's minds the reality of the unexpected nature of His coming and the essential truth that they be ready to see Him when He returned. Just as Jesus had finished the previous four discourses (Mt. 7:28, 11:1, 13:53, 19:1), the narrative has clear closure at the end, but this last closure is unique in adding the word “all,” “when Jesus had ended all these words.” All the discourses have been taught and there only remains His preparation for His death, His crucifixion, His resurrection and His commissioning of His Apostles to disciple the world.

“ALTHOUGH THOSE HUNGRY DOGS EAGERLY OPENED THEIR MOUTHS TO DEVOUR CHRIST, OR RATHER, RUSHED FURIOUSLY UPON HIM, STILL GOD WITHHELD THEM, BY A SECRET RESTRAINT, FROM DOING ANYTHING BY THEIR DELIBERATION OR AT THEIR PLEASURE . . . AND IT IS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE FOR US TO HOLD, THAT CHRIST WAS NOT UNEXPECTEDLY DRAGGED TO DEATH BY THE VIOLENCE OF HIS ENEMIES, BUT WAS LED TO IT BY THE PROVIDENCE OF GOD.” JOHN CALVIN

I. VALUED POLITICALLY MT. 26:1-5

Against all odds and particularly the calculated decision of His antagonistic leaders, Jesus predicts for His disciples that He will be crucified for Passover within two days. His death is the crowning achievement of His life and the culmination of all the prophecies and pictures throughout the entire Old Testament. John the Baptist, His forerunner, had introduced Him perfectly with the declaration, “Behold the Lamb of God who takes

BIBLE STUDY LOCATION INFORMATION

WEDNESDAY @ 7:00AM –BIBLE STUDY – FREDERICKSBURG – DENNYS ON RT. 1, 11:30AM – WOODBRIDGE – RESUMING AGAIN ON MAY 11, 2011
THURSDAY @ 7:00AM –BIBLE STUDY – RT. 10, IRONBRIDGE SPORTS Pk, NOON – WYTESTONE PLAZA – 8TH & MAIN – 2ND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
FRIDAY @ 7:00 AM –BIBLE STUDY – IN THE TIDEWATER AREA (CALL 804-683-2285 FOR SPECIFICS)

Virginia

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away the sin of the world!” (Jn. 1:29, 36) Just as Isaiah 53:5-7 had revealed long ago, “But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the chastening of our well-being fell upon Him, and by His scourging we are healed. All of us like sheep have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; but the LORD has caused the iniquity of us all to fall on Him. He was oppressed and He was afflicted, yet He did not open His mouth; like a lamb that is led to slaughter, and like a sheep that is silent before His shearers, so He did not open His mouth.” These murderous leaders assume that they are in control and they deliberate their path of deceit in killing Christ. They meet and decide that it is best to procrastinate their crime for another nine days, when everyone has gone home. Completely unaware that he is fulfilling prophecy, the high priest calls for Jesus’ death on behalf of the nation; “It is better for you that one man die for the people than that the whole nation should perish” (Jn. 11:50). His leaders only value the death of their King!

rebuked her for it (Jn. 12:5). As the fragrance filled the room they indignantly said to the others, “*Why has this perfume been wasted? For this perfume might have been sold for over three hundred denarii, and the money given to the poor*” (Mk 14:4-5). The woman exhibiting such lavish love for Christ must have been deeply hurt as the disciples continued to scold her. But Jesus spoke in her defense emphasizing the first Great Commandment above the second and reminding them that poverty would never be eradicated, but the opportunity to demonstrate love to Himself personally would soon be gone. “*She has done what she could; she has anointed My body beforehand for the burial*” (14:8). She had understood but the disciples still did not, though this was the seventh time in Matthew’s Gospel alone that Jesus had told them of his death. Soon they would be the ones who would praise this woman as Jesus promised, “*Wherever the Gospel is preached in the whole world, that also which she has done shall be spoken in memory of her*” (14:9).

“WHEN, BY GOD’S SOVEREIGN ALLOWANCE, JESUS’ ENEMIES FINALLY SUCCEEDED IN PUTTING HIM TO DEATH, IT WAS AT THE VERY TIME THEY MOST WANTED TO AVOID.” JOHN MACARTHUR

“THE LORD PASSES A HIGHER COMMENDATION ON THIS THAN ANY OTHER ACT RECORDED IN THE N.T. . . . SHE SAW THAT JESUS WAS STILL A KING, THOUGH DESTINED TO DIE. THE SAME THOUGHT—THE CERTIANTY OF THE DEATH OF JESUS—THAT ESTRANGED JUDAS MADE HER DEVOTION MORE INTENSE.” A. CARR

II. VALUED PERSONALLY MT. 26:6-13

In gratitude for his healing from the incurable disease of leprosy, Simon had invited Jesus and His disciples for supper. Their conversation must have been abruptly stopped by an unnamed woman approaching Jesus with an alabaster vial of ointment worth the equivalent of about \$50,000 today. Judas’ eyes must have brightened with anticipation, hoping that she would give the vial to Jesus as a gift so that it could be sold and he could embezzle some of the money (Jn. 12:6). But to his extreme disappointment, she “*broke the vial and poured it over His head*” (Mk. 14:3). Some of the disciples had learned from Judas the previous Saturday when Mary had done the same thing and Judas had

III. VALUED PROUDLY MT. 26:14-16

Judas Iscariot, stung by the rebuke of Jesus and the disappointment in the lack of opportunity to steal, decides to make up for his iniquitous loss with a new strategy of theft. Indwelt by Satan and unwilling to mention his Master’s name to the murderous chief priests, he said, “*What are you willing to give me if I deliver Him to you?*” Smugly, they offer Judas the value of a dead slave (Ex. 21:32) and unknowingly, the value of God to His people (Zachariah 11:12-13). The revenge of his pride is full as he seeks opportunity to betray.

Questions to Ponder:

- 1) Does your life prove that Jesus is of more value to you than your political status?
- 2) Have you ever demonstrated lavish love in giving sacrificially of what you have to Christ and His kingdom?
- 3) Do you allow smaller sins to continue in your life so that you may fail when tempted with those that are more significant?