

Introduction

1. You've noticed our roughhewn cross back on stage. As continue in Mk. 14, focus = cross.
2. Now just hours away from Jesus' crucifixion. Mark takes us methodically thru the events.
  - a. As we go thru those events, over/over again see tremendous cost Jesus had to pay.
  - b. The heart of salvation is the Cross of Christ. The reason salvation is so easy to obtain is that it cost God so much. The Cross was the place where God and sinful man merged with a tremendous collision and where the way to life was opened. But all the cost and pain of the collision was absorbed by the heart of God. (Show)<sup>1</sup>
  - c. Just sang these words: *I'll never know how much cost to see my sin upon that cross.*
  - d. (Show)<sup>2</sup> While can never comprehend it, we can try to understand it. (Show Text/Title)

I. **Jesus was sacrificed by His Father, vv. 12-16.**

A. **Secret Preparations**

1. 1<sup>st</sup> thing notice is great care Jesus took to eat Passover meal w/disciples in secret.
  - a. **Names secret**, v. 13: *sent two of his disciples.*
  - b. **Signal secret**, v. 13: *man carrying a jar of water will meet you.*
    - i. Highly unusual cause men carried only water skins, while women waterpots.
    - ii. This would've been like a man carrying a purse today, something don't see.
    - iii. Home owner must been believer to direct his servant to use this secret signal.
  - c. **Location secret**, v. 14: *wherever he enters.*
  - d. **Code secret**, v. 14: *The Teacher says, Where is my guest room, where I may eat...*
  - e. **Agent secret**, v. 15: *he will show you a large upper room.*
2. All of this seems like a spy movie, doesn't it? Secret code, agent, location, signal.
3. Jesus wanted to eat the Passover in total secrecy. Why?

B. **Reasons for Secrecy**

1. Jesus hid place so Judas not reveal. Most important meal, Jesus betrayal not interrupt.
2. Jesus was planning to reveal Himself as the Passover lamb about to be sacrificed.
  - a. **Note chronology**, v. 12: *1<sup>st</sup> day Unleavened Bread, when sacrifice Passover lamb.*
    - i. Thursday before Good Friday, 14 Nisan lambs killed between 3-5pm.<sup>3</sup>
    - ii. After some blood of each lamb sprinkled on altar, taken home for Passover.
    - iii. Meal eaten 6pm-12am. Jewish new day began sundown. Passover = Good Fri.
  - b. Jesus was celebrating His own Passover. Bread = My body; Cup = My blood.
  - c. As each household killed lamb to remember physical redemption from Egypt,...
  - d. The Father sacrificed His Son to accomplish our spiritual redemption from sin.
  - e. V. 27 Jesus said, *I [the Father] will strike the shepherd.*
    - i. Few hrs. Jesus experience awful moment when bearing sins, Father turn away.
    - ii. 1<sup>st</sup> Person, who said, *My beloved Son, well-pleased*, & 2<sup>nd</sup> Person who said,
    - iii. *//Father = 1, Father luv's Son...were separated as Father's wrath poured on Son.*

<sup>1</sup> Oswald Chambers. <http://www.azquotes.com/quote/875865>. Accessed 10/26/17

<sup>2</sup> Here I am to Worship chorus. [https://img.haikudeck.com/mg/gP6eTz2bHd\\_1400001613473.jpg](https://img.haikudeck.com/mg/gP6eTz2bHd_1400001613473.jpg). Accessed 10/26/17

<sup>3</sup> MacArthur, J., Jr. (Ed.). (1997). *The MacArthur Study Bible* (electronic ed., p. 1494). Nashville, TN: Word Pub.

- f. This was Jesus' final meal on earth. It graphically explains Jesus Passover lamb.
- 3. One more thing. Cross ultimately is the most satisfying answer to problem of evil.
  - a. Any thinking person asks, *If God loves us so much, why permit so much evil?*
  - b. *Why doesn't God do something?* I heard about father whose son killed in battle.
    - i. Pastor that, *I need to go and console him.* When arrived, father blurted out,...
    - ii. *Where was God when my son was killed?!* Pastor wisely & lovingly responded,...
    - iii. *God was in the same place He was when His own Son was killed.*
  - c. Greatest injustice that has ever occurred was the crucifixion of sinless Son of God.
  - d. All evil in the world is ultimately due to human sin. Not unjust for sinners punished.
  - e. But God sent His Son to be punished in our place, standing by while happened.
  - f. That is the greatest act of love that has ever occurred. (Show John 3:16)<sup>4</sup>
  - g. The cross is ultimately the most satisfying answer to the question of evil.
  - h. God, who was perfectly just in condemning the whole world, instead...
  - i. Sacrificed His Son that the world thru Him might be saved. That's love.

## II. Jesus was betrayed by His Friend, vv. 17-21.

### A. Passover A Family Time

- 1. Normally one or two families shared the meal.<sup>5</sup> Commemorated past/future deliverance.
  - a. Sharing table fellowship was a sign of intimate fellowship.
  - b. 2xs Jesus makes this emphasis, vv. 18, 20 (*eating w/me...dipping into dish w/me*).
- 2. That Jesus was eating Passover w/disciples, shows were family, including Judas.
- 3. Horror of betrayal was not enemy who turned Jesus over, but an intimate friend.

### B. How Jesus Reached Out to Judas to The Very End (Show)

- 1. Jesus washed Judas' feet (between vv. 17 & 18). Explained (Show John 13:10-11).<sup>6</sup>
  - a. Jesus was saying, *Judas, old friend, you're not clean.*<sup>7</sup>
  - b. It was a loving appeal to Judas' conscience.
- 2. Jesus reminded Judas of Ahithophel (*one who is eating w/me = Psa. 41:9*).
  - a. Ahithophel = David's trusted counselor who betrayed him & joined Absalom.
  - b. When his betrayal backfired, he committed suicide. *Judas, remember Ahithophel.*
  - c. Judas, just like Ahithophel committed suicide. Jesus graciously acted to prevent it.
- 3. Judas was seated at Jesus' left, a place of honor.
  - a. Can't be sure of arrangement but most Bible students see like this artist. (Show)<sup>8</sup>
  - b. John was on the right; Peter further away cause motioned to John; Judas on left.
  - c. Jesus' head as reclined at table was only inches from Judas' heart (see Jn. 13:23).

<sup>4</sup> [https://img00.deviantart.net/0353/i/2011/062/7/c/john\\_3\\_16\\_by\\_sachikoizumi-d3asz7.jpg](https://img00.deviantart.net/0353/i/2011/062/7/c/john_3_16_by_sachikoizumi-d3asz7.jpg). Accessed 10/28/17

<sup>5</sup> Keener, C. S. (1993). *The IVP Bible background commentary: New Testament*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, Mark 14:17.

<sup>6</sup> John 13:10-11. <http://slideplayer.com/slide/6617604/23/images/16/Dirty+Feet.jpg>. Accessed 10/27/17.

<sup>7</sup> Hughes, R. K. (1989). *Mark: Jesus, servant and savior*. Vol. 2, p. 157. Westchester, IL: Crossway Books.

<sup>8</sup> The Betrayal by Marilyn Todd-Daniels. <http://www.redeemerofisrael.org/2012/04/setting-of-last-supper-triclinium.html>. Accessed 10/27/17.

- d. Extraordinary act of kindness because meant Judas honored by Jesus at Passover.
4. Jesus offered Judas renewed love and forgiveness, vv. 19-20.
  - a. *To take morsel from table, dip in common dish, offer to another = friendship gesture.*<sup>9</sup>
  - b. Jesus was reaching out to Judas. *Turn to me. It's not too late.*
5. Judas warned Judas of his awful fate, v. 21. Judas could've repented. Still time.

### C. Lessons for Us

1. Jesus understands our deepest pain. *People pain is the worst kind of pain.*<sup>10</sup>
  - a. Heard it said sometimes divorce greater pain than death of a spouse.
  - b. Betrayal is so deep. Some of you who've been thru painful divorces know that.
  - c. Jesus was *a man of sorrows & acquainted w/grief*. He knows deepest pain.
2. Jesus never stops reaching out to us.
  - a. If Jesus reached out to Judas this much, imagine how much He extends hand to you.
  - b. One of the greatest stories in heaven will be = how patient Jesus was with me.

### III. Jesus was deserted by His Followers, vv. 27-31.

#### A. Emphasis Is Total Aloneness of Jesus

1. Even Peter...who swore his allegiance w/oath would fall away.
2. *The rooster crows twice*. Crowing of rooster signified the approach of morning
3. Peter, so sure of himself, would fall so quickly he would deny Jesus before daybreak.

#### B. Hardest Task in Life = NOT Facing Problems, But Facing Them Alone, w/No Companion

1. Pastor-friend of mine went thru very difficult time of betrayal in his church.
  - a. A man he trusted put him in a very difficult spot before whole church.
  - b. W/courage he did the right thing, only to have people that were friends turn against.
  - c. He said to me in the aftermath of it, *The only ones can count on are God and family*.
2. Jesus' disciples were His family. Where did that leave Him?
  - a. No human help in His hour of need. And in a few hrs even Father turn from Him.
  - b. *He could've called 10,000 angels...but He died alone for you and me.*
3. Did you notice how Jesus endured it? He knew He would rise again, v. 28.
  - a. He would be vindicated. Every unjust accusation would be overcome.
  - b. Every evil taunt would be proved to be wrong. Suffering lamb become ruling lion.
  - c. And the same hope sustains us.
  - d. **10 For God is not unjust so as to overlook your work and the love that you have shown for his name in serving the saints, as you still do. 11 And we desire each one of you to show the same earnestness to have the full assurance of hope until the end, 12 so that you may not be sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.**<sup>11</sup>
3. We began: *I'll never know how much cost to see my sin upon that cross.*
4. He was sacrificed; He was betrayed; He was deserted.

<sup>9</sup> Hughes, op. cit., p. 157.

<sup>10</sup> Heard Pastor John MacArthur say this at Moody Church, Chicago in a sermon on 2 Corinthians 12:7-11.

<sup>11</sup> [The Holy Bible: English Standard Version](#). (2016). (Hebrews 6:10-12). Wheaton: Standard Bible Society.