

Intro.

- A. Imagine kind of crowd that fills St. Louis when Cardinals are playing in the World Series.
 - 1. That is what Jerusalem was like when the Passover pilgrims were in town for the biggest Jewish feast.
 - 2. In the midst of those festivities, Jesus was preparing for the ordeal of His final hours (trial & death).
- B. There is no secret about Jesus' steadfast determination to obey His Father's will, even into death **Phil.2:8**
- C. For few moments, let's trace His last steps, & notice especially the responses of various people to Jesus.

Discuss.**I. In Bethany—HE WAS ADORED, 14:1-9** (6 days before Passover, notice diff. between Judas & Mary)

- A. Mary of Bethany, sister of Martha & Lazareth (c. **Jn. 11:1-2**) anointed Christ with costly ointment f/ India.
 - 1. All 3 times we run into this lovely lady in Holy Writ, she is at feet of Jesus (**Lk. 10:38ff; Jn. 11 & 12:1f**)
 - 2. This extravagant gift began to convey the depth of love & appreciation Mary had for her Savior.
- B. There were at least 3 consequences of her act:
 - 1. the house was filled w/ fragrant aroma (c.**Jn. 12:3**)
 - 2. such love & devotion was resented & criticised (c. **Jn. 12:4ff**) //waste(**14:4**)= perdition(**Jn. 17:12**)=Judas
 - 3. Jesus commended Mary & graciously accepted her gift, defended her to her critics
 - a. #1 concern = God's approval
 - b. News of Mary's gift is a permanent part of the gospel message, (**14:9**)

II. In the Upper Room – HE WAS BETRAYED, 14:9-26

- A. The betrayal plot really started the day before in Bethany, Judas being disgusted w/ Mary's gift to Jesus.
 - 1. While Mary had given her best, Judas gave his worst --- hatred.
 - 2. Judas' greed & selfish consumed him, & he providentially became the answer to the Jews dilemma as to how Jesus might be taken into custody w/o causing a riot....*for only 30 pieces of silver* (c. **Ex. 21:32**)
- B. Peter & John saw to it that the Passover meal was prepared (c. **Lk. 22:8**) **Ex.12:39**
 - 1. Lamb reminded Jews of the lamb's blood on the doorposts, **Ex. 12:7**; bread reminder of haste leaving E.\
 - 2. (between **Mk. 14:17 & 18** was the occasion of Jesus washing the disciples' feet (c. **Jn. 13:1-20**)
 - 3. Even as disciples *discussed* who was gtest., now they discussed who was vilest!!! (Jn, Jesus, Judas) -**19**
 - 4. Judas left Upper Room just before Jesus instituted the memorial feast of the Lord's Supper, c. **Jn. 13:30**
 - 5. *bread – this is My body; cup - this is My blood...* **vs. 22-25**, was a memorial *till He comes* -**1 Cor. 15:26**
 - 6. Last thing they did in that Upper Room = sing hymn (prob. tradi. Passover hymn, **Psa. 115-118**.)

III. In the Garden – HE WAS FORSAKEN, 14:27-52

- A. Jesus warned of the disciples fall on the way to the *Garden of the Oil Press*.
 - 1. **Zech 13:7** had said that when the Shepherd was struck down, the sheep would scatter. (c. **Jn. 18:8**)
 - 2. (after resurrection, Christ would see them again in Galilee, **vs. 28 & 16:6-7**)
- B. Peter could not accept the thought that he himself would be untrue to Jesus. (**29**)
 - 1. His allegiance to Christ would not falter, even in the face of death!
 - 2. The other disciples felt confidence of their dedication to their Master, too **vs. 31b**
- C. As Jesus prayed in the garden...
 - 1. The disciples (Peter, James & John) were to sit close by, & watch, **34**
 - 2. Jesus prayed earnestly that the hour of his trial & death might pass Him by (**35f, 39, 40**)
 - 3. Just as Jesus & the favored 3 were leaving Gethsemane, Judas came with a kiss of death on his lips.**44f**
 - a. In the middle of the mob (swords & clubs), Peter lashed his sword at Malchus, cutting off his r. ear
 - b. the arrest was made, Jesus was bound (**Jn. 18:12**) Jesus restored the ear, **Lk. 22:51**
 - c. Had Jesus not healed Malchus that day, there could have been 4 crosses on Calvary that fateful day.
 - d. All His disciples left Him & fled, **vs. 50**

IV. In the High Priest's Palace – HE WAS REJECTED, 14:53-72

V. In Pilate's Hall -- HE WAS CONDEMNED, 15:1-20

Concl.

A

- 1.
- 2.

- a.
- b.
- c.

B.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.