

# Mark



## Lesson 16-Anointing, Passover, and Last Supper

Focus: Mark 14:1-31

1. **The Scribes plotted to put Jesus to death (v.1,2)**
2. **Mary Magdalene came to anoint Jesus with the costly perfume (v.3-9)**
  - a. *This woman gave to Jesus her most precious gift that she could give. A fragrance costing over 300 denarii (Over one year's worth of wages). In her heart, she felt that Jesus deserved the VERY best. And nothing was too great of a gift to give for Him. The Pharisees complained among themselves, "What a waste?!!" But, Jesus told them to leave her alone. All they could do was to complain and find fault with her. But she had reached out herself on a limb to show her thankfulness, love, and compassion towards Jesus in giving him this very expensive gift. Jesus was thankful for her show of love and compassion. He gratefully accepted her special gift to him. He pointed out that she had anointed him for his burial. That was the only anointing that he got for it. As Jesus was dying on the cross, he would have smelled some of the remaining fragrance of her love offering. When friends, family, and disciples had forsaken Jesus, yet this woman and her gift were at the foot of the cross to show her undying support for him.*
  - b. *Jesus honored this woman greatly by saying that her name and her kind favor would be remembered and mentioned in every part of the world where the gospel of Jesus Christ would be preached (and now it comes to our ears today!).*
3. **Judas heard there was an opportunity to betray Jesus for money and he took it (v.10,11)** *Part of him thought that perhaps Jesus would escape anyway, show himself to be the great king, and then conquer the Romans. He felt surely there would be no harm in his betraying his Lord and friend Jesus into the hands of His enemies.*
4. **Jesus had the Passover meal prepared and then he celebrated it with his disciples (v.12-16)**
  - a. *Jesus explained the details of what should be done to go and prepare the Passover meal. Christ's disciples went and they found it exactly as He had said. They walked in faith according to His words, and their faith was confirmed (v.16)*
  - b. *This meal was to become one of the most famous Passover meals in all of History! Even one of the most famous artists of the renaissance in Europe painted this all famous scene—"The Last Supper" was painted by Leonardo da Vinci in the 15<sup>th</sup> century as a commemorative work of this Biblical, historical event in the life of Jesus.*
  - c. *To understand more about the Passover ceremony we may look at the book of Exodus chapter 12:5-11, 13-15, 22, 46. This ceremony commemorated the departure from Egypt when God set his people free from slavery. The Lamb was offered on this occasion. It was a male, it was blameless and spotless, it was offered in the evening; its blood was placed on the doorposts of the house to separate between God's people and the world's people. It was eaten in haste, nothing was left until the morning (just like Jesus was not left on the cross overnight), no leaven (yeast) was to be around (just like Jesus cleanses our lives from sin/corruption), and none of the animals bones were to be broken (just like Jesus' bones were*

*not to be broken—John 19:31-37; Psalm 34:20). The Passover Lamb pointed completely to Jesus. Jesus was even crucified on the Passover weekend! (See John 1:29; 19:31).*

5. **Jesus pointed out that a betrayal would happen that night (v.17-21)** All asked, “Is it I?” Jesus told that it would be one who dipped into the dish with him. One who was so close to him, yet whose heart was so far from Jesus that night. It would have been better for him not to have been born Jesus said. Yes, **this event was prophesied (Psalm 41:9)**, but Judas was never forced to fulfill that role. He always had the freedom of choice. Although Jesus knew what he was going to choose, God certainly did not force him to choose that thing. It’s like a person sitting at the top corner of a blind intersection. They can see two cars coming from two different directions. They are coming very fast. One of them has a red light but it appears that he will not stop. The person watching this KNOWS what is going to happen if they do not choose to stop. He can see that this tragic collision is going to happen, BUT, the watcher did not cause it to happen—that was dependent upon the decisions of the drivers (especially the one who was at fault). And so God sees, but He does not cause such an event to happen (that is based upon our choices).
6. **Jesus institutes the Lord’s Supper (v.22-25)**
  - a. *This special ritual was to replace the need for the Passover meal. Jesus gave the grape juice, symbolic of his blood which was shed for mankind. The bread represented His body which was broken for us. Food becomes a part of us, and so Christ must become a part of us. We must partake of him and have that life giving energy that comes from the body and blood of Jesus Christ. Jesus came to give us eternal life. This ritual was to be continued in the Christian church again and again until the return of Christ as a continual reminder of our need for Christ, his body, and redeeming blood. **More Christian teaching about the Lord’s Supper and its importance can be found in 1 Corinthians 11:23-30.***
  - b. *(v.25) Jesus here made a statement of sacrifice and self-denial. He would no longer drink the fruit from the vine until we all come to be in the kingdom of heaven together after His 2<sup>nd</sup> coming (WE are to drink of it, but He will not do so until then). By Jesus’ example of self-denial we can learn the lesson of self-denial. In this sinful age of earth’s history it is not good for us to partake of every pleasure and selfish gratification the world is offering. Let us remember that we are here for only a short time, and we have a purpose and part in the service of Christ—that is, to win other souls for Him and His kingdom. Let us remember to give up some of those extravagant indulgences and pleasures of this life. Let us sacrifice for the cause of God and remember that our time here is short!! (If Jesus can do it, so can we!).*
7. **And as they were leaving, Jesus predicted Peter’s denial of Him that very night (v.26-31)**
  - a. *Peter was bound to deny and forsake Jesus Christ that very night. Yet, he knew not his own heart. **God knows our hearts even better than we do!!** Let us not be proud and boastful but let us pray humbly that God will help us to be faithful unto Him, for we know not our own hearts as we should. But, God can help us to have true and faithful hearts for Him. Sometimes our human promises (even to God) are like ropes of sand—they are worthless. But, by God’s grace and the strength of Jesus we may yet stand firm and strong for Jesus (Philippians 4:13; Jude 1:24). **The prophecy here mentioned which Jesus refers to is found in Zechariah 13:7.***

### **Question (s) for the Heart:**

**Is it your desire to partake of Christ’s blessings and to have a heart in tune with His? \_\_\_\_\_**