

# Study of the Gospel of Mark

## Chapter 14 (Part 1)

### Background

Jesus has now finished His address on the destruction of Jerusalem and the events of His final return. Now Mark proceeds to tell us what was going on behind the scenes as the Jewish leaders make preparations to have Jesus put to death.

1. Many Bible students have struggled to understand the chronology of these final days. There are a number of reasons for this. First, the Jewish day differed from the Roman day in that it went from 6pm to 6pm. We have a number of indicators concerning time in the Gospels, but we have to keep the Jewish understanding in mind. Complicating things even more, there are some sections that are actually taken out of chronological order in some of the Gospels in order to emphasize a particular point.

What time frame does Mark give in Mark 14:1? \_\_\_\_\_

What time frame does Matthew give in Matthew 26:2? \_\_\_\_\_

What time frame does Luke give in Luke 22:1? \_\_\_\_\_

What time frame does Mark give in Mark 14:12? \_\_\_\_\_

What time frame does Matthew give in Matthew 26:17? \_\_\_\_\_

What time frame does Luke give in Luke 22:7? \_\_\_\_\_

What time frame does John give in John 12:1? \_\_\_\_\_

2. Read Mark 14:1-2. What was the intent and plan of the Jewish leaders concerning Jesus? Why did they plan to do this and what does this tell us about these leaders?

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**Note:** *The Greek word in Mark 14:1 translated "stealth" in some translations actually carries the idea of using craft or trickery. This word is better translated "trickery" than "stealth".*

3. In order to understand the celebration of the Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread, we need to read the establishment of this festival by God in Exodus 12:1-28. This was celebrated yearly on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of Nisan as a perpetual reminder of how Jehovah had delivered His people from slavery in Egypt and the angel of death through the sacrifice of a spotless lamb. More importantly, this celebration also foreshadowed how God would ultimately deliver His people from the slavery of sin and eternal death through the death of another perfect Lamb on Calvary's altar.

4. Read Mark 14:3-9. These verses are taken out of chronological order by Matthew and Mark in order to show what precipitated the betrayal of Judas. When does John tell us that this feast occurred? (See John 12:1-8)

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5. Compare the harmony of the three Gospel accounts of this event. What are some of the similarities and differences between these accounts?

**Similarities**

**Differences**

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6. What can we learn about the Gospels from comparing Biblical accounts in this way?

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7. Read Mark 14:10-11. All three of the Gospels that contain this information place it at this same point (compare Matthew 26:14-16 and Luke 22:1-6). This meeting between Judas and the Jewish leaders seems to have taken place on Wednesday of Holy Week. What are some of the clues in the Gospels that would lead us to this conclusion?

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8. What was Judas' motivation to betray Jesus into the hands of the Jewish leaders? Provide a Bible passage to support your answer.

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9. What lessons can be learned from the accounts recorded in this section?

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