

# Study of the Gospel of Mark

## Chapter 14 (Part 2)

### Background

Now, after a lengthy record of the events of Tuesday, we finally move on to the events of a new day during Holy Week. But we do not come to Wednesday, but Thursday. In our last study we ended with the meeting between Judas and the Jewish leaders as they came to an agreement on the betrayal of Jesus. This meeting probably took place sometime on Wednesday (see Luke 22:1). Because we have no record of what Jesus did on that day Wednesday is sometimes called "Silent Wednesday." In this section we move forward to the events of Thursday on which the Passover meal was prepared and celebrated. This day is known as "Maundy Thursday" and derives its name from the words spoken by Jesus on that day and recorded in John 13:34: "A new commandment I give to you." (The English word "commandment" in Latin is "mandatum" from which "maundy" is derived).

1. Read Mark 14:12-16; Matthew 26:17-19; Luke 22:7-13. What are some of the differences between the Gospel accounts? How can they be in harmony with one another?

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**Note:** *There were many things which were necessary in preparing for the Passover meal: a place needed to be found where the meal could be held; all the leaven would need to be removed; tables, etc would need to be set up for the participants; a lamb would need to be procured and killed; other items would also need to be purchased and prepared like bread, wine, and bitter herbs; the lamb would need to be roasted. Some of these things would have evidently already been done (v. 15).*

2. There is an amazing aspect to what Jesus tells His disciples to do. What is it?

3. Read Mark 14:17-21. All of the Gospels refer to the impending betrayal of Judas on this night (compare Matthew 26:20-25; Luke 22:21-23; John 13:21-30). In fact, the betrayal of Judas was foretold by Jesus even long before this night (John 6:70). Jesus goes so far as to say "It would have been good for that man if he had never been born" (v.21). Why would Jesus make such a statement, and what does it mean?

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*One of the early church fathers, Chrysostom wrote: "The foreknowledge of God is not the cause of the evil in man, nor does it involve any necessity of it. Judas did not betray Christ because God foresaw it, but God foresaw it because Judas would be a traitor."*

4. It is beneficial to note how Jesus deals with Judas in this situation. Jesus while speaking of the betrayal, does not single Judas out and put him on display in front of the others. It appears that the other disciples were not aware who the betrayer was (Luke 22:23). Jesus seems to be saying this for the benefit of Judas, not for the other disciples. What lesson can we learn from the example of Jesus in this section?

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5. Read Mark 14:22-25. These verses record Jesus' institution of the Lord's Supper. What are a few other titles that have been used to describe the Lord's Supper? Do you know where in Scripture these titles are derived from?

Title	Reference
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6. The Lord's Supper was a meal that was instituted by Christ as a perpetual celebration for His followers in the New Testament church. Yet His precious Supper has come under attack by many within the visible church who reinvent the sacrament based on their human reason. By doing this have robbed the Sacrament of its power and meaning. Jesus words are clear: "This IS my body; This IS my blood." The bread and wine in the Lord's Supper do not merely REPRESENT Christ's body and blood. Christ's body and blood are truly present in, with, and under the visible elements of bread and the wine. Read 1 Corinthians 11:23-29. How does Paul emphasize and teach the Real Presence of Christ in the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper?

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