

happen. At this **Last Supper** he will give them a profound lesson in love and humility, for after they had argued which one was the greatest, he **washed their feet** in a profound display of **humility**, calling them to do likewise.

Luke 22:24-30 - 24 And **there arose also a dispute among them as to which one of them was regarded to be greatest.** 25 And He said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those who have authority over them are called 'Benefactors.' 26 **"But not so with you, but let him who is the greatest among you become as the youngest, and the leader as the servant.** 27 "For who is greater, the one who reclines at the table, or the one who serves? Is it not the one who reclines at the table? But I am among you as the one who serves. 28 "And you are those who have stood by Me in My trials; 29 and just as My Father has granted Me a kingdom, **I grant you 30 that you may eat and drink at My table in My kingdom, and you will sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.** NASB

John 13:3-5 - 3 Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come forth from God, and was going back to God, 4 rose from supper, and laid aside His garments; and taking a towel, He girded Himself about. 5 **Then He poured water into the basin, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded.** NASB

After this, He **promised** that He would send them the **Holy Spirit** when He **departs**, which is of course, to their great advantage. The narrative of this supper is largely recorded in John 13-16.

John 16:7-14 - 7 "But I tell you the truth, **it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper shall not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you.** 8 "And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin, and righteousness, and judgment; 9 concerning sin, because they do not believe in Me; 10 and concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you no longer behold Me; 11 and concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged. 12 "I have many more things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. 13 **"But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth;** for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come. 14 "He shall glorify Me; for He shall take of Mine, and shall disclose it to you. NASB

These **three plus years** Jesus has been with His **disciples** and done and said so many wonderful things. Now it comes down to this last night with them, and the next **few hours** will happen so fast. It will be a very **troubling** and **dark time** indeed.

Mark 14:17-21 17 And when it was evening He came with the twelve. 18 And as they were reclining at the table and eating, Jesus said, "Truly I say to you that one of you will betray Me — one who is eating with Me." 19 They began to be grieved and to say to Him one by one, "Surely not I?" 20 And He said to them, "It is one of the twelve, one who dips with Me in the bowl. 21 "For the Son of Man is to go, just as it is written of Him; but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been good for that man if he had not been born."

Now Jesus will be betrayed by a close friend. This also will fulfill a prophecy from Psalm 41:9.

Psalm 41:9 - Even **my close friend, in whom I trusted**, Who ate my bread, Has lifted up his heel against me. NASB

Rejoicing with His disciples at this Passover He had earnestly desired to eat with them, yet the pain of betrayal darkens the hour. **"17 And when it was evening He came with the twelve. 18 And as they were reclining at the table and eating, Jesus said, "Truly I say to you that one of you will betray Me — one who is eating with Me."** At this the disciples were taken back, even grieved, as Jesus well aware of the events at hand, begins to unfold for them what is actually happening in their midst. **"19 They began to be grieved and to say to Him one by one, "Surely not I?" 20 And He said to them, "It is one of the twelve, one who dips with Me in the bowl."** Now the disciples are troubled and wondering who it must be? One of their own brothers who has walked with them. Even Jesus Himself is greatly troubled, imagine the crime, betraying the Son of God. John records details.

John 13:21-30 - 21 When Jesus had said this, **He became troubled in spirit, and testified**, and said, "Truly, truly, I say to you, that one of you will betray Me." 22 The disciples began looking at one another, at a loss to know of which one He was speaking. 23 There was reclining on Jesus' breast one of His disciples, whom Jesus loved. 24 Simon Peter therefore gestured to him, and said to him, "Tell us who it is of whom He is speaking." 25 He, leaning back thus on Jesus' breast, said to Him, "Lord, who is it?" 26 Jesus therefore answered, **"That is the one for whom I shall dip the morsel and give it to him." So when He had dipped the morsel, He took and gave it to Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot. 27 And after the morsel, Satan then entered into him.** Jesus therefore said to him, "What you do, do quickly." 28 Now no one of those reclining at the table knew for what purpose He had said this to him. 29 For some were supposing, because Judas had the money box, that Jesus was saying to him, "Buy the things we have need of for the feast"; or else, that he should give something to the poor. 30 **And so after receiving the morsel he went out immediately; and it was night.** NASB

Indeed, Satan Himself has part in this **dark night**. But all of this is happening **according to God's plan**. And even though God by His predetermined plan would have Jesus go to the cross, yet Judas is still guilty of this most evil betrayal. And as always with God's justice, the **punishment will fit the crime**, terrible indeed. **"21 For the Son of Man is to go, just as it is written of Him; but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been good for that man if he had not been born."** Even though the Scriptures have written that the **Christ** would **suffer** (Isaiah 53:1-12), and to His suffering He must go to fulfill the eternal plan of God, yet **Judas** is still **responsible** for the evil **betrayal** of **Jesus**. Here we see **divine sovereignty** working together in **human responsibility** and free choice that perfectly accomplished God's plan. And yet we **humans** are **responsible** before God for the **choices** we make. Judas will betray His Master for 30 pieces of silver, and it will be a terrible consequence he will reap, **"woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been good for that man if he had not been born."** This of course referring to the degree of **eternal torment** Judas will experience, shut out from the presence of God. And yet God will use Judas **betrayal** as a **means** to provide atonement for sin for all of God's people in human history. The prophets **Zechariah** and **Jeremiah** spoke of it **400 years** before it **happened**, and yet it came to pass with pinpoint **accuracy**.

Zechariah 11:12-13 - 12 And I said to them, "If it is good in your sight, give me my wages; but if not, never mind!" So they **weighed out thirty shekels of silver as my wages**. 13 Then the Lord said to me, "Throw it to the potter, **that magnificent price at which I was valued by them.**" So I took the thirty shekels of silver and **threw them to the potter in the house of the Lord**. NASB

Matthew records how it ended in **Judas** terrible **remorse** and the priests buying the potters field with the **"blood money."**

Matthew 27:3-10 - 3 Then when Judas, who had betrayed Him, saw that He had been condemned, **he felt remorse and returned the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders**, 4 saying, "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood." But they said, "What is that to us? See to that yourself!" 5 And he **threw the pieces of silver into the sanctuary and departed; and he went away and hanged himself**. 6 And the chief priests took the pieces of silver and said, "It is not lawful to put them into the temple treasury, since it is the **price of blood.**" 7 And they counseled together and with the money bought the Potter's Field as a burial place for strangers. 8 For this reason that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. 9 **Then that which was spoken through Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled, saying, "And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of the one whose price had been**

set by the sons of Israel; 10 and they gave them for the Potter's Field, as the Lord directed me." NASB

See how God's eternal decree is perfectly fulfilled in human history, and how God's Word can speak with amazing **accuracy** of events **hundreds** of years before they come to pass. Now Judas went out immediately after he received the morsel from Jesus (John 13:30). Here Jesus has brought up His betrayal at the **Last Supper**. Now that **Judas** has **left them**, He will institute the **New Covenant** in His blood, the communion meal of remembrance.

Mark 14:22-26 - 22 And while they were eating, He took some bread, and after a blessing He broke it; and gave it to them, and said, "Take it; this is My body." 23 And when He had taken a cup, and given thanks, He gave it to them; and they all drank from it. 24 And He said to them, "This is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. 25 "Truly I say to you, I shall never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God." 26 And after singing a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

This is a remarkable scene, and really a **monumental event** as the Lord does in fact **institute** the Christian ordinance of **Holy Communion**. It is to be a **perpetual** ceremony of **remembrance** carried out by the Church to remember the sufferings of Christ, which are the fulfilment of all sacrifice and offerings, becoming the **ultimate Passover** and **Deliverance** from the slavery of sin and death. **"22 And while they were eating, He took some bread, and after a blessing He broke it; and gave it to them, and said, "Take it; this is My body." 23 And when He had taken a cup, and given thanks, He gave it to them; and they all drank from it."** Here Jesus explains that the bread and the cup are **emblems** that symbolize His **body** and **blood**, and therefore we **remember** His **sacrificial death** by partaking the bread and the cup as **emblems** to remind us of the all-important event of the Cross. Luke records Jesus words, **"do this in remembrance of Me."**

Luke 22:19 - 19 And when He had taken some bread and given thanks, He broke it, and gave it to them, saying, **"This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me."**

Jesus often used these kinds of symbolic metaphors when referring to Himself, like saying He is the **"Bread of Life,"** or a **"vine,"** or a **"door."** These things He says in a **figurative** sense, and so it is here. The bread and the cup are **NOT** His body and blood, but **emblems** meant for us to **remember** His **sacrificial death**. And what is also remarkable here is that Jesus refers to this ceremony of remembrance as **"My blood of the covenant."** 24 And He said to them, **"This is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many.** As the **old covenant** was ratified by the sprinkling of the blood of the sacrificial offering (Ex 24:9), so the New