

# THE PERSON AND LIFE OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST

## Lesson Nine

### ***THE BETRAYAL AND ARREST OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST***

Scripture reading: Matt. 26:36-56

#### **Burden to Impart:**

*This last day of the life of the Lord Jesus while He was in the flesh was one of great suffering. He was betrayed in a cruel way by one of His disciples (His friend: Psalm 41:9; Matt. 26:50) for thirty pieces of silver. He was unjustly arrested, unfairly tried, mistreated, and was crucified even though no fault was found in Him.*

**Memory Verse:** "Behold, the hour has drawn near, and the Son of Man is delivered up into the hands of sinners" (Matthew 26:45).

#### **Facts to Teach:**

1. The people's warm and enthusiastic welcome of the King of Israel stirred up the jealousy and envy of the religious leaders of the Jews. Because they wanted the glory and honor of the people, they were jealous of the Lord Jesus and plotted to have Him killed (Matt. 27:18; Mark 15:10). Satan was working his hardest in the hearts of evil men to cause them to do the most wicked crime ever done by fallen mankind; to crucify the sinless and only begotten Son of God.
2. Although Satan and men were working together in their evil plot to have the Lord Jesus killed, He did nothing to stop them. This was because He knew that the hour had come (John 12:27; 13:1; 17:1) for Him to be crucified for the sins of the whole world. He did not try to hide or escape from the hands of those who came to arrest Him, nor did He resist them. He willingly gave Himself over to them when they came to Him, for He had already determined that He would do His Father's will (John 18:11), which was to die on the cross.
3. Judas, one of the twelve Apostles chosen from among many disciples who followed the Lord, was the one who took care of the money people had offered to the Lord (Luke 8:3). He did not love the Lord Jesus, he loved money and he was a thief (John 12:6). His heart was hard toward the Lord, so Satan entered into it (Luke 22:3).
4. Judas secretly made a plot with the chief priests to help them deliver up Jesus to death. They rejoiced and agreed to give him thirty pieces of silver for his evil deed (Matt. 26:15).
5. On the night of the Passover, Jesus and His disciples kept the Passover feast for the last time. This was to be their last dinner together before the Lord Jesus was killed. This was a very special and sweet time together with the Lord Jesus and His twelve disciples. They ate the Passover together, Jesus washed their feet, and He taught them many things they never understood before (John 13 to 17).
6. After they ate the Passover Judas left the disciples and went out to betray Jesus (John 13:30). After the false disciple left, the Lord Jesus established the Lord's supper with the bread and with the wine (Matt. 26:26-28).
7. Jesus then took His disciples to the Mount of Olives to a special garden where He often prayed, Gethsemane. He was so burdened and in such an agony of suffering at that time that an angel came to strengthen Him (Luke 22:43-44). He told His heavenly Father that although He did not want to go to the cross, He did not want to do His own will, but His Father's (Matt. 26:39).

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### Lesson Nine (continued)

8. While the Lord was suffering alone in prayer, the disciples went to sleep. The Lord woke them from sleep three times but each time they fell asleep again. He told them to pray and watch with Him, but they could not do it.
9. Suddenly, a great crowd of people came to Jesus in the garden with swords and clubs. They had been sent from the chief priests and elders to arrest Jesus and were led by Judas, the false disciple.
10. Judas had agreed with some of those in the mob to mark out which man was Jesus by kissing Him on the cheek in a friendly way. Although Jesus knew Judas was only pretending to love Him and be a disciple, He was not angry with him, nor did He reject him. He still called him "friend" (Matt. 26:50).
11. Although Jesus could have prayed to the Father and He would have immediately received more than twelve legions (36,000) of angels to help Him, He would not do it, so that the Scriptures would be fulfilled (Matt. 26:53-54) and we could be redeemed.
12. He willingly allowed them to seize and arrest Him, to bind Him and lead Him away to His trial and judgment (John 18:12).



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(Story for lesson 9)

## THE BETRAYAL AND ARREST OF THE LORD JESUS

Memory verse: And going forward a little, He fell on His face and prayed, saying, My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; yet not as I will, but as you will.

Matthew 26:39

Our Lord Jesus came purposely to Jerusalem to be the Lamb of God, as the great sacrifice for sin. In Exodus we read that the Passover lamb had to be a perfect one. Here in Jerusalem the chief priests, scribes and Pharisees plotted to find some fault with the Lord Jesus; but for the six days He was there with them they found none. They could only find Him perfect. His answers were always the truth. They lied to our Lord and would not answer Him directly, but He only told the truth.

During that last week the Lord Jesus spoke to many groups of people. He spent much time with His own disciples, answering all the questions they were anxious to know, even about the future. This helps us today to know what will happen in the days ahead. He explained many things about the Kingdom we are entering into.

Through all His dealing with these religious leaders their evil hearts were more and more against Him. They were fulfilling God's will for His Son Jesus to be the great sacrifice, which would be His cruel death for the sins of the world, as well as for the sins of those who hated Him. He was indeed the Perfect Lamb of God!

There were some people, dear to Him, who believed and loved our Lord. Two of these were Simon the leper, who no doubt had been healed by the Lord, and Mary, a woman whose sins had been forgiven her. In thanks to our Lord, Simon had a feast in his house for the Lord Jesus as well as His disciples and followers. It was there that Mary poured an alabaster jar of very precious ointment on the Lord Jesus' head. Some of the disciples still did not understand why she did this, so they criticized Mary for such a "waste" of money. The Lord, however, rebuked them and told them that this costly ointment was poured upon Him for His burial.

While Mary was loving our Lord, Judas, the disciple who betrayed him, was making plans to sell the Lord Jesus to the evil priests and Jewish leaders who agreed to give him money if he would lead them to Jesus that night so they could kill Him. (A very dreadful thing, which he did.)

This was the time for the Passover Feast that our Lord and all His disciples ate together every year. While they were sitting with Him, Jesus said, "Truly I say to you that one of you shall deliver Me up." In great surprise and fear each one asked, "Is it I?" When Judas asked this, the Lord let his own word condemn him. Judas then left the table. Now the Lord and His true disciples could have the

first Lord's Table, like we have together each Lord's day evening.

At this table the Lord spoke lovingly to His disciples and then told them that they would all forsake Him that night. They each denied that they would do such a thing. Peter said even more confidently than they all that he would never do such a thing. He would die before he would do that. But the Lord Jesus told Peter that not only would he forsake Him, he would deny Him three times.

After supper, Jesus and the eleven went to a garden where they often went to pray, the Garden of Gethsemene. There our Lord prayed and cried and suffered in an agony while His disciples kept falling asleep. The Lord willingly and obediently accepted His Father's will to die on the cross, even though He knew that it would cause great pain and suffering.

Judas knew right where they were and came to the Lord with a great crowd from the chief priests and elders, carrying swords and clubs. Our Lord Jesus was especially grieved when Judas falsely kissed Him, for this was the sign Judas had agreed to use to show the chief priests who they should arrest. The Lord Jesus had always treated Judas as a friend. No one needed a sword or club. Jesus went willingly to the cruel death they had plotted; even for all of them.