

“The Story” Study – Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John

Class 14: Chapters 26-27

Chapter 26: The Hour of Darkness

1. DVD – Session 26
2. Chapter 26 Highlights: This chapter covers about 24 hours – from the time the Passover meal was prepared until the time the Ultimate Passover Lamb laid down His life:
 - a. The Passover – OT and NT:
 - i. It took place at the time of Moses in conjunction with plague number ten; even though death was immanent for all the first-born males living in Egypt, the LORD made a way to escape death through the blood of an unblemished lamb (you can read all the details in Exodus chapter 12). Those who believed the LORD did what He said and, because of His grace, were spared physical death; furthermore, the Passover led to physical freedom for the Israelites.
 - ii. Then, for about 1400 years, the Passover was supposed to be celebrated each year with a special meal, which included lamb; the meal was intended to look back to the LORD’s rescue from physical death and to look forward to the coming Messiah, the Lamb of God, who would rescue all from spiritual death.
 - iii. Notice the timeline at the bottom of page 367.
 - iv. During the meal, Jesus washed the feet of His disciples – not so we would wash feet, but so that we would take action for others according to their needs.
 - v. Judas was not forced to betray Jesus, but he was tempted and he did fall; by His Divine foreknowledge, the LORD knew all along what would happen.
 - vi. The Passover meal is the same as the Last Supper; furthermore, during that meal, the Lord’s Supper was instituted, which is the NT Passover meal.
 - b. Comfort: Jesus knew His followers would be confused and overwhelmed by the coming events, so He taught them, comforted them, and prayed for them. Those same blessings are available to us in God’s Word, so let us benefit from it every day!
 - c. Arrest: Jesus knew what was coming and could have easily resisted, yet He allowed His arrest, trials, beatings, mocking, crucifixion, and so much more because of the Father’s plan to save us and because of His love for the Father and for us!
 - d. Peter and Judas: Both were very sorry – Peter’s denial and Judas’ betrayal, but only Peter was repentant; he was sorry for what he did **and**, by God’s grace, he received God-given faith in Jesus by which he received the forgiveness of his sins.
 - e. Jesus from the Cross: He spoke seven times: (1) Father, forgive them... (Luke 23:34); (2) Woman, here is your son (John 19:26-27); (3) Today, you will be with me... (Luke 23:43); (4) My God, My God... (Matt. 27:46; Mark 15:34); (5) I thirst (John 19:28); (6) It is finished (John 19:30); and (7) Father, into Your hands... (Luke 23:46).

Chapter 27: The Resurrection

1. DVD – Session 27
2. Chapter 27 Highlights: This chapter includes Jesus' burial, the securing of His tomb, and His resurrection appearances; Jesus didn't just say He would rise, He really did and He made it known to many by physically appearing to them:
 - a. Jesus' Death: He must be dead before He can rise from the dead:
 - i. Why was the Sabbath day right after Good Friday a special one, which made it urgent to remove the bodies from the crosses before sundown on Friday? In the OT there were three festivals each year that lasted for seven days – Unleavened Bread, Pentecost, and Tabernacles; those were large festivals which required the attendance of all Jewish men throughout the world; a Sabbath day would be included in each of those festival weeks.
 - ii. To speed up the process of death for those who had been crucified, their legs would be broken. That was done to the two who were crucified with Jesus, but not to Jesus; He was already dead. To make sure, He was pierced with a spear. In both cases (no bones broken and pierced), the Scriptures were fulfilled.
 - iii. Myrrh was part of the burial process; what else can you say about myrrh in Jesus' life? (Matthew 2): _____
 - iv. It's amazing that the chief priests and the Pharisees knew of Jesus' statement to rise on the third day, so Pilate agreed to secure the tomb (Jesus' disciples did not remember or understand what He had told them about His rising).
 - b. Jesus' Resurrection Appearances: Many saw Him, talked to Him, touched Him, saw Him eat, and heard Him teaching.
 - i. On Easter to several women (Mt. 28:8-10) and to Mary (John 20:11-18).
 - ii. On Easter to Peter (Luke 24:34; 1 Cor. 15:5).
 - iii. On Easter to two disciples on the road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35).
 - iv. On Easter to the disciples, except Thomas, in a locked room (John 20:19-24).
 - v. One week after Easter to the disciples and Thomas (John 20:26-29).
 - vi. To some of the disciples by the Sea of Galilee (John 21:1-14).
 - vii. To a group of 500 disciples and to James (1 Cor. 15:4, 7).
 - viii. When He ascended (Mt. 28:16-20; Acts 13-12).
 - ix. To others – Stephen (Acts 7:55), Paul (1 Cor. 15:8; etc.), John (Rev. 1:12-19).
 - c. Before Jesus ascended: **“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age” (Mt. 28:18-20 NAS).**
 - d. Summary of John: **“...these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name” (John 20:31 ESV).**
3. Assignment: Read chapters 28-29, the next class is on Thursday, June 23 at 7:30.