

STUDIES IN THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

#163

Text: Matthew 26

Topic: The Passover Feast

17 Now on the first day of the Feast of the Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying to Him, "Where do You want us to prepare for You to eat the Passover?"

18 And He said, "Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, 'The Teacher says, "My time is at hand; I will keep the Passover at your house with My disciples." ' "

19 So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them; and they prepared the Passover.

20 When evening had come, He sat down with the twelve.

21 Now as they were eating, He said, "Assuredly, I say to you, one of you will betray Me."

22 And they were exceedingly sorrowful, and each of them began to say to Him, "Lord, is it I?"

23 He answered and said, "He who dipped his hand with Me in the dish will betray Me.

24 The Son of Man indeed goes 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."

25 Then Judas, who was betraying Him, answered and said, "Rabbi, is it I?"

He said to him, "You have said it."

Matthew 26:17-25

1. The Passover and the Feast of the Unleavened Bread

a) The Passover commemorated the day when God passed over Egypt

- b) It was followed by a 7 Day Unleavened Bread Feast
2. The Passover was to be discreetly celebrated
- a) In a home that was undisclosed
 - b) The enemies of the Lord were on full alert to arrest Him on sight
3. The Celebration of the Passover with the Disciples
- a) All the Disciples were there
 - b) All partook of the Passover Meal
4. The knowledge of the Lord Jesus
- a) He knew who would betray Him
 - b) Yet He did not name Judas Iscariot
 - c) Some reasons why the Lord did not expose him:
 - i) His grace
 - ii) His mercy
 - iii) His compassion
 - iv) His love
5. The word of warning given by the Lord
- a) One of the Twelve would betray Him
 - b) Collectively, they were "exceedingly sorrowful"
 - i) Most genuinely
 - ii) Except Judas Iscariot
6. Each disciple asked
- a) "Lord, is it I?"
 - b) Each was afraid of himself
 - c) Each feared his own weaknesses

d) Each spoke out with genuine fear (except for Judas)

7. The Lord's reply

"He who dipped his hand with Me in the dish will betray Me"

- a) This was still not very clear
- b) All of them had dipped their bread with the Lord Jesus

8. A grim statement

The Son of Man indeed goes 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."

Matthew 26:24

- a) The Lord would be betrayed as prophesied
- b) But woe to the betrayer
- c) It would have been good for him not to have been born

9. The phoney question of Judas

Then Judas, who was betraying Him, answered and said, "Rabbi, is it I?"

He said to him, "You have said it."

Matthew 26:25

- a) He too posed the question his fellow disciples did
- b) He probably did not believe that the Lord could see through him
 - i) "Rabbi, is it I?"
 - ii) "You have said it"

SOBERING LESSONS

1. Sin must never be trifled with
2. Sin must be dealt with thoroughly

3. Self-deception is a deadly powerful sin