



Portion:

Title:

SCRIPTURES

- Matthew 26-27
- I John 2:5-6
- Colossians 2:6-7
- III John 1:2-4

FINAL FOOTSTEPS

- Preparation
- Betrayal
- Trials
- Execution

There is more to say than could be said with words. Really think about it. There are only two days remaining until He takes His last breath on this side of eternity. “Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit.” And having said this, He breathed His last. It all comes down to this and the number of significant things—history-changing things, personal life-changing things that are about to take place in the span of less than forty-eight hours.

The Sermon on the Mount of Olives was complete. It was finished late afternoon, close to sunset, the day after His triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Think about all that happened in those preceding two days, most of those events taking place on two visits to the temple. Technically, it’s less than two full days. He rode into Jerusalem in the morning, left the city that night, went back the next

morning, and that evening He left the city again and went up onto the Mount of Olives to deliver that sermon. There He taught about the coming end to a dying religious system and about the signs of the end-of-the-age and how to be prepared. If we think about the timing of Passover, which takes place as the sun is setting, we get a clearer picture of when He completed that sermon. When He was finished teaching, He said to His disciples, “You know that Passover is just two days from now, and I will be handed over to be crucified.” This places the timing of that sermon late in the day on Monday—forty-eight hours before Passover.

The next day, Tuesday morning, He is in Bethany being anointed for His burial with expensive perfume, and that evening, the night before the Passover, is when Jewish men would traditionally make their final preparations. It’s called the preparation day and on that evening Y’shua will share His last meal, the Last Supper, as He delivers His final preparation remarks to His closest disciples. To get ready, He sends His disciples ahead into Jerusalem to secure a room in which to prepare.

After the meal that night, He is off to the Garden of Gethsemane where His life as the Passover Lamb will be traded for the lives of all mankind. Subsequently, a court case takes place in the cover of darkness, mitigated that night by hypocritical religious leaders at the helm. And we know the timing because Peter is

waiting overnight in the courtyard of the High Priest for a verdict, when the morning rooster crows, but not before he had denied his Lord three times.

That morning Y'shua is passed off to the Roman courts because the Jewish leaders display the worst brand of cowardice imaginable. They want Him dead, but they need someone else to do the dirty work. By noon Y'shua is beaten, bloodied, His flesh is torn from His body, and He is there hanging on a cross innocent, but crucified in humiliation for all to see.

The question for you is this; are you willing to go there with Him? Would you walk in His final footsteps? The journey through those final moments are unmatched in intensity and significance by any other span of hours in the history of humanity. Will you go there? Will you walk like He walked?

PROPHETIC SEED:

““You know that after two days is the Passover, and the Son of Man will be delivered up to be crucified.” Then the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders of the people assembled at the palace of the high priest, who was called Caiaphas, and plotted to take Jesus by trickery and kill Him.” Matthew 26:2-4 NKJV

“Assuredly, I say to you, **wherever this gospel is preached in the whole world**, what this woman has done **will also be told as a memorial** to her.” Matthew 26:13 NKJV

“That which has been **is what will be**, that which is done **is what will be done**, and there is **nothing new under the sun.**”

Ecclesiastes 1:9 NKJV

PROPHETIC FRUIT:

“But **whoever keeps His word**, truly the **love of God is perfected in him**. By this we know that we are in Him. **He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.**” I

John 2:5-6 NKJV

“As you **therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord**, so walk **in Him**, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving.”

Colossians 2:6-7 NKJV

“Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers. For I rejoiced greatly when brethren came and **testified of the truth that is in you, just as you walk in the truth. I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth.**” III John 1:2-4 NKJV

Let's Set the Scene: Portion in a blurb

Introduction

Last week in [Prophetic Education](#) we walked through the Olivet Discourse. Y'shua had left the temple and headed out through the Kidron Valley and up onto the Mount of Olives east of Jerusalem, and He looked back toward the Temple and the eastern wall of the city. It was the final discourse in Matthew's Gospel, and this one was about the end—what is coming and the necessary final preparations.

Y'shua spoke about the coming end to the first century Jewish religious system and then taught His disciples about the signs of the end-of-the-age. He introduced the great tribulation, what it will look like before His second coming, and how even He does not know the exact day or hour that will occur.

The rest of the discourse was about what it means to be prepared for His return. He called those who are ready His wise and faithful servants. He even used two parables to stress the importance of preparedness and good stewardship, what it looks like to be prepared and the consequences for not being ready and the coming judgement.

This week the religious leaders launch their diabolical scheme to kill Y'shua. He is anointed for His burial in Bethany; and then

Judas makes a deal to hand Him over in the most infamous betrayal in history.

Y'shua sends His disciples ahead into Jerusalem to prepare for the Passover and then they have their preparatory meal in the upper room. It's the Last Supper during which He breaks the bread that is symbolic of His broken body, and pours His final cup of wine, representing the blood that He will shed for the redemption of the sins of the whole world. At the meal He predicts He will be betrayed and then identifies His betrayer. He also predicts Peter's denial of Him, which Peter vehemently denies will happen.

From there it is off to the Garden of Gethsemane where He prays and surrenders His final will to His Father, and is eventually handed over to sinners by Judas with a kiss. He faces an overnight kangaroo court in the Sanhedrin and is found guilty because that was the predetermined, premeditated, prophetic outcome, not because He is actually guilty.

Then, Peter does exactly what was predicted and He denies knowing Christ three times. From the Sanhedrin He is handed over to Rome and Pontus Pilate because, even with all their scheming, the religious leaders can find no legal justification to execute Him. Pilate also knows He is innocent, but innocent is NOT an option for the Jews, so the Jewish leaders trade Y'shua's life for Barabbas, a horrible criminal. And Pilate has such a weak character that He

won't get in the way, even though His wife had a prophetic vision to stay far away from these corrupt proceedings. So he capitulates to the Jews, while he simultaneously, in his own mind, washes his hands from any guilt for spilling innocent blood. And the religious leaders are happy to take the wrap for Y'shua's blood, as long as they don't have to perform the dirty deed! Unfortunately, for both sides, God will find them guilty and hold them responsible!

Judas tries to rework His deal and give back the money he was paid to betray Y'shua, but the religious leaders are not having it, so Judas commits suicide in his miserable regret. Y'shua is ultimately sentenced to death and then He faces all sorts of mocking and ridicule. Finally the Lord of glory is crucified and dies on the cross. He is removed and buried in a rich man's tomb. Our narrative comes to a close as Pilate is asked to set a guard around the tomb, so the disciples can't steal the body and fake His predicted resurrection—but that is not the end of the story!

Matthew 26

The Plot to Kill Y'shua

1. It is two days before the Passover and Y'shua is going to be the Passover sacrifice (crucified).
 - (a) The religious leaders assemble with Caiaphas, the high priest, to plot to take Jesus "by trickery" and kill Him.

- (b) They want to do it “before” the feast so it does not cause any pushback from the people.

The Anointing at Bethany

- 2. A woman anoints Y’shua with an expensive flask of oil and His disciples think it’s a poor use of resources that could benefit the poor.
 - (a) Y’shua makes them aware of the prophetic moment. “The poor will always be around, but it is the end of this phase of My ministry with you and this is for My burial anointing.”
 - (b) I promise that what she has done is so important that throughout the rest of history, wherever the good news is spread, what she did here will be shared as part of the story.

Judas Agrees to Betray Y’shua

- 3. Judas goes to the religious leaders and asks them to make him an offer.
 - (a) He is willing to turn Y’shua over for bogus accusations.
 - (b) They pay him thirty pieces of silver, so from that moment forward Judas looks for the best opportunity to sell Him out.

Y’shua in the Upper Room (the Last Supper)

Go Prepare

- 4. The disciples inquire where they should prepare for the Passover.

- (a) He sends His disciples into the city to find a location to prepare.
- (b) They find a spot and the twelve meet there that night to begin preparation for that year's Feasts of Passover, Unleavened Bread and Firstfruits.

Predicted Betrayal

- 5. Y'shua reveals that one disciple among them is a traitor and they all want to know who it is.
 - (a) I am about to show you—and trust Me, even though it must happen this way, the guilty party would be better off never having been born.
 - (b) Judas asks, “Rabbi, is it I?” Yes!

The Bread and the Wine (Body and Blood)

- 6. At the table...
 - (a) Y'shua breaks the bread... “Take, eat; this is My body.”
 - (b) Y'shua takes the cup of wine... “Drink, this is My blood of the new covenant.” It will be shed for the remission of sins.
 - (c) Then He lifts the forth cup of wine (the cup of the kingdom) and says that He will drink this one until the kingdom comes.
 - (d) They leave after dinner and head back to Mount of Olives to the Garden of Gethsemane.

Peter's Predicted Denial of Christ

7. Y'shua tells them that this very night they will all be made to falter. After I am raised you will see Me in Galilee.
 - (a) It's a fulfillment of prophecy!
 - (b) 'I will strike the Shepherd, And the sheep of the flock will be scattered.' [Zach 13:7]
 - (c) Peter assures Y'shua that even if everyone else compromises, he won't.
 - (d) Y'shua assures Peter that he is very wrong—that this very night he will deny Him three times before the morning rooster crows.
 - (e) Peter assures Y'shua that even if he must die, he would never deny Him and as always, all the disciples follow Peter.

The Prayer in the Garden

8. Y'shua arrives in the Garden of Gethsemane with His disciples, and He has them wait in one spot while He goes to pray in private.
 - (a) As He moved away from the group he brought His inner circle with Him, Peter, James, and John. He expressed to them His immense despair and anguish.
 - (b) He tells them that His sorrow is so intense that it's a matter of life and death and He asks them to stand with Him in prayer.
9. He moves on to a private place and prays what might be the most significant prayer of His life.

(a) *“O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will.”*

10. He comes back to His inner circle and finds them sleeping. He address Peter in particular...

(a) Because Peter is going to be the one who denies Him three times before the night it over.

11. Peter, why could you not stay awake for one hour at such a critical time?

(a) Wake up and pray or you will fall prey to your weakness.

(b) I am very aware of your claim earlier... *“Even if I must die, I would never deny You!”*

(c) And you are always the model for the rest of these disciples who claimed the same.

(d) But let me assure you that your spirit is willing to die, but your flesh is not!

12. Y’shua goes away privately a second time and prays again...

(a) *“O My Father, if this cup cannot pass away from Me unless I drink it, Your will be done.”*

13. He returns to the three and finds Peter, James and John asleep again.

(a) He leaves them, goes back to His private spot and prays the same prayers a third time—*[not as I will, but as You will.]*

- (b) When He finishes and returns to His sleeping disciples, He wakes them and tells them that it's time to meet the betrayer and for Him to be handed over to sinners.

Betrayal and Arrest in Gethsemane

14. At that very moment, Judas shows up with a throng of armed Jewish men sent by the religious leaders.

- (a) Judas had prearranged a signal that the one he greets with a kiss is the man they should arrest.

- (b) He approaches Y'shua and says, "Greetings, Rabbi!" and kisses Him.

- (c) Y'shua, at first, acts like He does not know why they are there and impetuous Peter (Peter is named in John's Gospel) leaps to His defenses and cuts off the ear of the high priest's servant.

15. Then, in what might be the greatest act of meekness in the history of mankind, Y'shua tells Peter to put away his sword and He heals the man.

- (a) Your choice of weapon will be the same as your choice of death He reveals.

- (b) Besides, I could command thousands of angels to rescue Me in an instant with one prayer—but I won't because we are in the midst of fulfilling prophecy!

16. Y'shua then exposes them all for their cowardice.

- a) Why are you doing this in such a secret and aggressive manner when I openly and often sat with you in the temple and you did nothing?
- b) And again Y'shua acknowledges that this all must happen to fulfill prophecy.

Y'shua Faces the Sanhedrin

17. After His arrest, Y'shua is brought before Caiaphas, the high priest, and an assembly of religious leaders.

- (a) Peter sat outside in the courtyard to see what would transpire.
- (b) Inside the kangaroo court the leaders were willing to say and do anything.
- (c) As long as they could end with a death sentence, they would even welcome false testimony.
- (d) Many false witnesses came forward, but none could actually give false testimony.
- (e) And other than taking Y'shua's actual words and twisting them, they had nothing to say.
- (f) They repeated their version of what they heard Him say a few days earlier in the temple. "I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days." What He did say was, "*Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.*"
- (g) The twisted words are good enough for the high priest.

- (h) He asks Y'shua if He'd like to rebut the testimony and Y'shua says nothing.
- (i) The high priest then orders Y'shua to answer a question under oath, "Are the Christ, the Son of God?"
- (j) Y'shua states emphatically, "Yes!" And soon all will see!
- (k) The high priest is so outraged that he tears his garments and screams, "Blasphemy! No further witnesses needed. Guilty as charged!"
- (l) The whole assembly of this illegal court agree on a sentence of death, spit at Him, beat Him, slap Him, and mock Him!
- (m) "Prophecy to us, Christ! Who is the one who struck You?"

Peter Denies Y'shua and Weeps Bitterly

18. Peter is sitting outside waiting to see what has happened in the court and he is recognized.
- (a) He is asked three times, by three different people, if He is one of Y'shua's followers, and all three times he denies even knowing Y'shua, let alone being with Y'shua!
 - (b) The third time they even recognize by His accent that he is a Galilean.
 - (c) He is so in denial that he even curses and swears, "I do not know the Man!"
 - (d) Then the rooster crowed, just as Y'shua predicted.

Matthew 27

Y'shua Handed Over to Pontius Pilate

19. Now, to complete their cowardice behavior, these angry, jealous, dishonest, and hypocritical leaders with an agenda, handed Y'shua over into the Roman judicial system, under governor Pontius Pilate, for him to be put to death.

Judas Hangs Himself

20. Once Judas recognizes the fruit His actions, he regrets his choice and goes back to the the religious leaders to refund the thirty pieces of silver they paid him for the betrayal.

- (a) It's like a witness going back and saying, "I lied under oath I want to change my testimony." "I lied, I recant, Y'shua is innocent and should not be executed!"
- (b) Then we see another level of religious leadership corruption.
- (c) "What is it to us? You gave your testimony and we don't care if you lied. That's on you!" (Besides, we knew you were lying already, because we paid for your testimony!)
- (d) Judas throws down the silver he was paid in the temple and leaves and in his guilt and remorse he commits suicide.
- (e) The chief priests know the money is dirty, so they can't add it back to the temple treasury.
- (f) So, they continue in their corruption as one corrupt deed births and fuels the next.

- (g) They have a subcommittee meeting and decide to use the blood money to purchase a potter's field, a public burial place to bury foreigners, indigent people, and criminals. A wonderful ministry to the community to disguise their wretchedness!
- (h) The field they purchase will forever be known as the Field of Blood.
- (i) Matthew then calls on the fulfillment of prophecy as the reason for the decision to buy a field. And, he names Jeremiah as the prophet speaking of the thirty pieces of silver and the potter's field.

Y'shua Faces Pilate

21. Pilate asks Y'shua if He is the King of the Jews. He says, "Yes!"

- (a) Meanwhile, the religious leaders are standing in the background leveling charges against Him and Y'shua completely ignores them.
- (b) Pilate asks Him if He is paying attention to the onslaught of accusations.
- (c) Y'shua ignores Him as well and Pilate is astonished at Y'shua's approach.

Take the Place of Barabbas

22. As we have already learned, local Roman governance always aimed to keep peace among those whom they ruled over. As

such, Pilate had a tradition of releasing a Jewish prisoner of the people's choice around the Passover.

- (a) In custody was a notorious prisoner name Barabbas whom Pilate offered to release, as an option, or he could release Y'shua.
- (b) He figured he'd offer the greatest disparity between options imaginable.
- (c) Barabbas was a bad as it gets and he was certain Y'shua was only incarcerated because they were jealous of Him.
- (d) He was a threat to disturb the "good thing they had going" in their religious program that was working well to keep the Jewish people under their heavy-handed religious system.
- (e) At the same time He figured Barabbas was so bad that there was no way they would choose him for release. Even with how much they disdained Y'shua, Barabbas was worse!
- (f) But while Pilate was thinking about these things, his wife sent a message to him telling him that she had a vision that He should not get involved in this Jewish persecution scam.
- (g) Even so, the religious leaders convinced the people to insist that Barabbas be released and to hold Y'shua. Pilate was shocked!
- (h) "What should I do with Him," Pilate asks. "Crucify him!" they insisted. And even when he questioned, "Why, what evil

has He done?" They just dug in their heels and demanded He be crucified!

- (i) Pilate realized he had to give them what they wanted in order to avoid the risk of an uprising, so he publicly washed his hands of the matter, "I am innocent of His blood. You take responsibility for His execution."
- (j) They agreed to terms: "His blood is on us and our children."
- (k) Barabbas is released and Y'shua is scourged and delivered to be crucified.

The Soldiers Mock Y'shua

23. Pilate's soldiers take Y'shua into the common hall where the whole garrison is gathered.

- (a) They stripped His torn body and placed a scarlet robe on Him.
- (b) Then they forced a braided wreath of thorns on His head, and placed a reed in His right hand like a king's scepter.
- (c) They kneeled before Him and ridiculed Him, saluting Him as the King of the Jews.
- (d) They spat on Him and struck Him on the head.
- (e) Then they put His bloody garment back on Him and sent Him off to be crucified.

The King on the Cross

24. They had to find a man to help him carry His cross as He was so weakened from the beating. They brought him to the Place of a Skull:

- (a) They tried to feed Him sour wine mixed with gall. He would not drink.
- (b) They crucified Him and cast lots for His garments to fulfill prophecy of Psalm 22:18
- (c) Then they sat and watched Him. And they placed the indictment that was used against Him over His head. THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS.
- (d) He was crucified with two thieves next to Him—one on the right and one on the left.
- (e) Those who passed by the cross mocked Him using His own words about destroying the temple and rebuilding it in three days! Also the very same thing they used to indict Him.
- (f) Then they used the convicting words that the High Priest asked about Him being the Son of God, to mock Him further. “Come down from the cross.”
- (g) The religious leaders also ridiculed Him.
- (h) “How can you save others but can’t save Yourself.”
- (i) “If He is the King of Israel, let Him supernaturally get off that cross and we will believe His claims.”

- (j) He says He's the Son of God—so God should save His Son!
- (k) Even the thieves agreed and mocked Him.

Y'shua Dies on the Cross

25. From noon until 3pm it became very dark.

- (a) Just before 3pm Y'shua cried out, "Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?" that is, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"
- (b) "Eli" seems to be a shortened form of Elijah so they think He is calling on Elijah to save Him!" (Elijah means Yahweh is My God.)
- (c) One of the spectators tried to give Him a drink, but the others urged Him to leave Him alone to see if Elijah would come rescue Him.
- (d) At that moment Y'shua died.
- (e) Immediately the curtain that separated the Holy Place from the Holy of Holies in the temple was torn from top to bottom.
- (f) Then an earthquake caused rocks to crumble and graves to crack open.
- (g) The first mass resurrection took place from those open tombs after His resurrection. And those saints went into the city and appeared to many people as a witness.
- (h) The centurion guarding Y'shua, and others with him, believed He was the Son of God after all they witnessed.

Y'shua Buried in Joseph's Tomb

26. Right before sundown (before Passover began) Joseph of Arimathea (a wealthy disciple) went to Pilate to ask permission to take down the body of Jesus.
- (a) Pilate gave him permission to do so and remanded the body into his care.
 - (b) Joseph took the body, wrapped it in a burial garb, and placed it in his new tomb, a cave carved from rock; and then they covered the entrance with large stone.
 - (c) Mary Magdalene and the other Mary, sat at the tomb.

Pilate Sets a Guard

27. The next day, which was the first day of Unleavened Bread, the religious leaders met with Pilate.
- (a) They related their concern that there would be some attempt, by Y'shua's disciples, to steal His body, a plot to deceive many into believing He rose from the grave three days later, just as He predicted He would.
 - (b) They requested that the tomb be guarded, at least until three days and three nights were past, to prevent His disciples from pulling off the scandal, which would allow them to claim, 'He has risen from the dead.'
 - (c) The religious leaders predict that if Y'shua's disciples were able to pull that off, the ramifications of that deception would

be far worse than had they let Y'shua live and keep preaching that He was the Messiah.

(d) Pilate granted their wishes.

PREPARATION

1. The Final Stage is Set

A. The Plot to Kill Y'shua

(1) The Diabolical Scheme

(a) Two days from the feast and the religious elite are panicking.

1. "Now it came to pass, when Jesus had finished all these sayings, that He said to His disciples, "You know that after **two days is the Passover**, and the Son of Man will be delivered up to be crucified." Then the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders of the people assembled at the palace of the high priest, who was called Caiaphas, and **plotted to take Jesus by trickery and kill Him**. But they said, "**Not during the feast, lest there be an uproar among the people.**""

Matthew 26:1-5 NKJV

(2) The Plot to Kill Y'shua

(a) It is two days before the Passover and Y'shua is going to be the Passover sacrifice (crucified).

1. The religious leaders assemble with Caiaphas, the high priest, to plot to take Jesus “by trickery” and kill Him.
2. They want to do it “before” the feast so it does not cause any pushback from the people.
 - a) Remember — Y’shua silenced them publicly once and for all after all the main factions of the religious elite (Pharisees, Sadducee, Herodians, Scribes) interrogated Him and were left in stunned silence.
 - 1) “And no one was able to answer Him a word, nor from that day on did anyone dare question Him anymore.” Matthew 22:46 NKJV (See [Mic Drop](#))
 - b) Of course, the only way they could trap Him was by plotting in secret! Nothing new with mankind. Men in power will do anything to stay in power!
 - 1) “*That which has been **is what will be**, That which is done **is what will be done**, And there is **nothing new under the sun.**” Ecclesiastes 1:9 NKJV*

B. The Anointing at Bethany

- (1) A Memory for ALL TIME!

(a) Prepared for Burial

1. “And when Jesus was in Bethany at the house of Simon the leper, a woman came to Him having an alabaster flask of **very costly fragrant oil**, and she poured it on His head as He sat at the table. But when His disciples saw it, they were indignant, saying, “Why this waste? For this fragrant oil might have been sold for much and given to the poor.” But when Jesus was aware of it, He said to them, “**Why do you trouble the woman? For she has done a good work for Me.** For you have the poor with you always, but Me you do not have always. For in pouring this **fragrant oil on My body**, she did it for **My burial.** **Assuredly, I say to you, wherever this gospel is preached in the whole world, what this woman has done will also be told as a memorial to her.**””

Matthew 26:6-13 NKJV

(2) The Anointing at Bethany

- (a) A woman anoints Y’shua with an expensive flask of oil and His disciples think it’s a poor use of resources that could benefit the poor.

1. Y’shua makes them aware of the prophetic moment.
“The poor will always be around, but it is the end of

this phase of My ministry with you and this is the anointing for My burial.”

2. I promise that what she has done is so important that throughout the rest of history, wherever the good news is spread, what she did here will be shared as part of the story.
 - a) Are we not sharing her story at this very moment 2000 years later?
 - b) And if we just rewrite Y’shua’s words a bit, and take her out and insert you, should His words not be equally as true?
 - c) *“Assuredly, I say to you, wherever this gospel is preached in the whole world, **what you have done and will do** will also be told as a memorial of the good work you have done for Christ.”*
 - 1) *“That which has been **is what will be**, That which is done **is what will be done**, And there is **nothing new under the sun.**” Ecclesiastes 1:9*
NKJV

C. Judas Agrees to Betray Y’shua

(1) The Secret Plot

- (a) Judas is the one who approaches the religious leaders...

1. “Then one of the twelve, called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, **“What are you willing to give me if I deliver Him to you?”** And they counted out to him **thirty pieces of silver.** So from that time he sought opportunity to betray Him.” Matthew 26:14-16 NKJV

(2) Judas Agrees to Betray Y’shua

- (a) Judas goes to the religious leaders and asks them to make him an offer.

1. He is willing to turn Y’shua over so bogus accusations can be levied against Him.

2. They pay him thirty pieces of silver, so from that moment forward Judas looks for the best opportunity to sell Him out

- a) This is something he will soon come to regret with such intensity that it will cost him his life and, seemingly, his eternal soul!

- 1) *“That which has been **is what will be**, That which is done **is what will be done**, And there is **nothing new under the sun.**”* Ecclesiastes 1:9

NKJV

D. Y’shua in the Upper Room (the Last Supper)

- (1) Go Prepare

(a) They Prepared for Passover

1. “Now on **the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread** the disciples came to Jesus, saying to Him, “Where do You want us to prepare for You to eat the Passover?” 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.**” ’ ” So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them; and **they prepared the Passover.**”
Matthew 26:17-19 NKJV

(2) Y’shua in the Upper Room (the Last Supper)

- (a) Go Prepare: The disciples inquire where they should prepare for the Passover.
 1. He sends His disciples into the city to find a location to prepare.
 2. They find a spot and the twelve meet there that night to begin preparation for that year’s Spring Feasts: Passover, Unleavened Bread and Firstfruits.
 - a) These feasts are prophetic rehearsal for the death, burial and resurrection.
 - b) Look at how these shadow pictures show up throughout the New Testament!

1) *“Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were **baptized into His death [Passover]**? Therefore we were **buried with Him [Unleavened Bread]** through baptism into death, that **just as Christ was raised from the dead [First Fruits]** by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.” Romans 6:3-4 NKJV*

(3) Note of Special Interest

(a) Interestingly, Matthew says they asked to prepare on “the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread,” which is quite literally impossible, because the first day of Unleavened Bread is AFTER the Passover is eaten.

1. Please see [Preparation Day—Who are Legitimate Sons?](#)
2. In the above sermon we review the entire Last Supper encounter in detail from John’s account (known as the Upper Room discourse). His account spans five entire chapters (13-17) and is the longest recorded sermon in Y’shua’s ministry, whereas the Synoptic Gospels only record highlights of the table encounter.
3. Just consider the idea of the preparation day as you review these scriptures and you will see that the

preparation day is the day BEFORE Passover and the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread is the day AFTER Passover.

- a) He was crucified as the Passover Lamb BEFORE Passover and He is taken down off the cross before sunset (which then becomes Passover) and He is buried in a nearby tomb so He would be in the grave before sunset when the Sabbath of the first Day of Unleavened Bread begins.
 - 1) *“Therefore, **because it was the Preparation Day, that the bodies should not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day) [the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread is a Sabbath—Leviticus 23:6-7], the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away.”** John 19:31 NKJV*
 - 2) *“Now in the place where **He was crucified** there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid. **So there they laid Jesus, because of the Jews’ Preparation Day, for the tomb was nearby.”** John 19:41-42 NKJV*

E. Predicted Betrayal

(1) We both know who it is...

(a) One of you will betray Me...

1. “When evening had come, He sat down with the twelve. Now as they were eating, He said, **“Assuredly, I say to you, one of you will betray Me.”** **And they were exceedingly sorrowful,** and each of them began to say to Him, “Lord, is it I?” He answered and said, “He who dipped his hand with Me in the dish will betray Me. 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.” **Then Judas, who was betraying Him, answered and said, “Rabbi, is it I?” He said to him, “You have said it.”**” Matthew 26:20-25 NKJV

(2) Predicted Betrayal

(a) Y’shua reveals that one disciple among them is a traitor and they all want to know who it is.

1. I am about to show you—and trust Me, even though it must happen this way, the guilty party would be better off never having been born.
2. Judas asks, “Rabbi, is it I?” Yes!

- a) It's crazy that he would even ask, as we saw earlier that he was the one who initiated the subversion.
- b) Judas went to the religious leaders and asked them to make him an offer to turn Y'shua in for bogus crimes.
 - 1) *“What are you willing to give me if I deliver Him to you?” And they counted out to him thirty pieces of silver.”* Matthew 26:15 NKJV
- c) The more this narrative comes into focus, the more you realize that nothing ever changes with man! Being paid for false testimony; money for lies; bribes for coverups or policy decisions, and the willingness to use absolute treachery to stay in power— “...there is certainly ***nothing new under the sun!*** ” Ecclesiastes 1:9

F. The Bread and the Wine (Body and Blood)

- (1) Y'shua Appropriates Passover Elements
 - (a) The Bread, the Wine, and the Kingdom of Passover!
 - 1. “And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said, **“Take, eat; this is My body.”** Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you. **For this is My blood of the new**

covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins. But I say to you, **I will not drink** of this fruit of the vine from now on **until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father's kingdom.**" And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives." Matthew 26:26-30 NKJV

(2) At the table...

(a) The Bread and the Wine (Body and Blood)

1. Y'shua breaks the bread... "Take, eat; this is My body."

a) The unleavened (sinless) bread of life. The bread used to survive the exodus at the first Passover.

1) *"And Jesus said to them, "**I am the bread of life.** He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst. ...**I am the living bread which came down from heaven.** If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; **and the bread that I shall give is My flesh,** which I shall give for the life of the world.""* John 6:35, 51 NKJV

2. Y'shua takes the cup of wine... "Drink, this is My blood of the new covenant." It will be shed for the

remission of sins. This is the third cup of wine at Passover — the cup of redemption

a) In Exodus 6:6-7, there are four main “I will” promises of Yahweh that are represented at each Passover by four cups of wine.

1) **Cup of Sanctification:** *“I will **bring you out** from under the yoke of the Egyptians.”*

2) **Cup of Judgment:** *“I will **free you** from being slaves to them.”*

3) **Cup of Redemption:** *“I will **redeem you** with an outstretched arm and with mighty acts of judgment.”* **This is the cup we see in the Last Supper Passover Rehearsal:** *“Drink from it, all of you. This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many **for the forgiveness of sins.**”* Matthew 26:27-28

4) **Cup of the Kingdom:** *“And I will **take you to me for a people**, and I will be to you a God”*
[Y’shua did not drink this one at the Last Supper!]

(b) He lifts the forth cup of wine (the cup of the kingdom) and says *“I **will not** drink of this fruit of the vine from*

now on until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father's kingdom."

1. Luke Best tells us what is coming and when He will drink again with us (the 4th cup)...
 - a) *"And **I bestow upon you a kingdom**, just as My Father bestowed one upon Me, **that you may eat and drink at My table in My kingdom**, and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel."* Luke 22:29-30 NKJV
2. John's account of Y'shua's teaching at the Last Supper encompasses five chapters (13-17) and the entire narrative is a sermon about the coming Kingdom
 - a) See [Preparation Day—Who are Legitimate Sons?](#)
3. They leave after dinner and head back to Mount of Olives, to the Garden of Gethsemane.

G. Peter's Predicted Denial of Christ

(1) I would NEVER....

(a) Instead of walking in Y'shua's footsteps, Peter often put his foot in his mouth!

1. "Then Jesus said to them, "All of you will be made to stumble because of Me this night, for it is written: '**I will strike the Shepherd, And the sheep of the flock will be scattered.**' But after I have been raised, I will

go before you to Galilee.” Peter answered and said to Him, **“Even if all are made to stumble because of You, I will never be made to stumble.”** Jesus said to him, **“Assuredly, I say to you that this night, before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times.”** Peter said to Him, **“Even if I have to die with You, I will not deny You!”** And so said all the disciples.”
Matthew 26:31-35 NKJV

(2) Peter’s Predicted Denial of Christ

(a) Y’shua tells them that this very night they will all be made to falter. After I am raised, you will see Me in Galilee.

1. It’s a fulfillment of prophecy!
2. ‘I will strike the Shepherd, And the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’ (from Zach 13:7)
3. Peter assures Y’shua that even if everyone else compromises, he won’t.
4. Y’shua assures Peter that he is very wrong—that this very night he will deny Him three times before the morning rooster crows.
5. Peter assures Y’shua that even if he must die, he would never deny Him and as always, all the disciples follow Peter—*“And so said all the disciples.”*

- a) Peter is always the one who has something to say.
- b) Oftentimes he is the one putting his foot in mouth
- c) Remember (Matthew 16:21-28)—Get behind me Satan: “Peter rebuked Y’shua for saying He would suffer and die at the hands of religious leaders!
- d) We will soon see what happens!
 - 1) *“That which has been **is what will be**, That which is done **is what will be done**, And there is **nothing new under the sun.**” Ecclesiastes 1:9*
NKJV

(3) CLOSED GONE FISHING

- (a) Peter is the one who gets six other disciples to go back to fishing even after the resurrection!
 - 1. “Simon Peter said to them, **“I am going fishing.”** They said to him, **“We are going with you also.”** They went **out and immediately** got into the boat, and that night they **caught nothing.**” John 21:3 NKJV
 - 2. Even after...
 - a) “And truly **Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples**, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and

that believing you may have life in His name.”

John 20:30-31 NKJV

- b) “**After these things** Jesus showed Himself again to the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias, and in this way He showed Himself: 1) **Simon Peter**, 2) **Thomas** called the Twin, 3) **Nathanael** of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee [4) **James**, 5) **John**] and 6) & 7) **two others** of His disciples were together.” John 21:1-2 NKJV

BETRAYAL

2. Irreversible Decisions

A. The Prayer in the Garden

(1) Wake Up!

- (a) Y’shua has to make the most important decision of His life and His three closest friends can’t even stay awake to support Him.

1. “Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and said to the disciples, “Sit here while I go and pray over there.” And He took with **Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee**, and He began to be sorrowful and deeply distressed. Then He said to them, “**My soul is exceedingly sorrowful,**

even to death. Stay here and watch with Me.” He went a little farther and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, **“O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will.”** Then He came to the disciples and **found them sleeping, and said to Peter, “What! Could you not watch with Me one hour? Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”** Again, a second time, He went away and prayed, saying, **“O My Father, if this cup cannot pass away from Me unless I drink it, Your will be done.”** And He came and **found them asleep again,** for their eyes were heavy. So He left them, went away again, and **prayed the third time, saying the same words.** Then He came to His disciples and said to them, **“Are you still sleeping and resting? Behold, the hour is at hand,** and the Son of Man is being **betrayed into the hands of sinners.** Rise, let us be going. See, **My betrayer is at hand.”**” Matthew 26:36-46 NKJV

(2) The Prayer in the Garden

- (a) Y'shua arrives in the Garden of Gethsemane with His disciples, and He has them wait in one area while He goes ahead to pray in private.
 - 1. As He moved away from the group he brought His inner circle with Him, Peter, James, and John. He expressed to them His immense despair and anguish.
 - 2. He tells them that His sorrow is so intense that it's a matter of life and death and He asks them to stand with Him in prayer.
- (b) He moves on to a private place and prays what might be the most significant prayer of His life.
 - 1. *"O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will."*
- (c) He comes back to His inner circle and finds them sleeping. He address Peter in particular...
 - 1. Why Peter?
 - a) It is likely because Peter is going to be the one who denies Him three times before the night is through.
 - 1) *"...nothing new under the sun."* Ecclesiastes 1:9
- (d) Peter, why could you not stay awake for one hour at such a critical time?

1. Wake up and pray or you will fall prey to your weakness.
 2. I am very aware of your claim earlier... “Even if I must die, I would never deny You!”
 3. And you are always the example for the rest of these disciples who claimed the same.
 4. But let me assure you that your spirit is willing to die, but your flesh is not!
 - 1) “...***nothing new under the sun.***” Ecclesiastes 1:9
- (e) Y’shua goes away privately a second time and prays again...
1. “*O My Father, if this cup cannot pass away from Me unless I drink it, Your will be done.*”
- (f) He returns to the three and finds Peter, James and John asleep again.
1. He leaves them, goes back to His private spot and prays the same prayer a third time—*[not as I will, but as You will.]*
 2. When He finishes and returns to His sleeping disciples, He wakes them and tells them that it’s time to meet the betrayer and for Him to be handed over to sinners.

(g) **Three times** Peter is sleeping; **three times** Peter will deny knowing Christ in Matthew 26:69-75; and **three times** Peter will be restored in John 21:15-19 to feed and shepherd God's people. And that is when he was told that he also will die for the cause much like Y'shua had just decided? Peter, follow Me!

1. "...*there is **nothing new under the sun.***" Ecclesiastes 1:9

(3) The Law of the Hebrew Bondservant

(a) Each time we visit the passages in which Y'shua faces His final decision in the Garden, we are compelled to recognize the magnitude of the choice He is making! The finality of what is happening is rooted in the Law of the Hebrew Bondservant.

1. ""If you buy a **Hebrew servant [Bondservant]**, he is to serve you for six years, but **in the seventh year he will go out free** without paying anything. **If he came in by himself he will go out by himself; if he had a wife when he came in, then his wife will go out with him. If his master gave him a wife, and she bore sons or daughters, the wife and the children will belong to her master, and he will go out by himself. But if the servant should declare, 'I love my master, my**

wife, and my children; I will not go out free,' then his master must bring him to the judges, and he will bring him to the door or the doorposts, and **his master will pierce his ear with an awl, and he shall serve him forever.**" Exodus 21:2-6 NET

2. **Christ was a Bondservant:** "You should have the same attitude toward one another that Christ Jesus had, who though he ***existed in the form of God** did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped, **but emptied himself by taking on the form of a slave [Bondservant], by looking like other men, and by sharing in human nature.** He humbled himself, by **becoming obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross!**" Philippians 2:5-8 NET
 - a) There comes a time when a Bondservant is permitted to go free, but there is a critical stipulation.
 - b) If he was given a bride while a servant, He cannot keep His bride when he is set free.
 - c) But if he loves his master (Father) and his bride (Church), he can choose to make a permanent decision and stay!

- d) It's a one time forever decision and it requires a piercing as a permanent sign.
- e) In the Garden of Gethsemane, Y'shua made that decision to stay and to be pierced on the cross, so He could keep His bride.
- f) He became a Bondservant when He became a human (like us) and He will resurrect with a glorified body (like us), so we can be married to Him forever!
- g) If He chose instead to go free, to not be pierced, He could have gone free (***back to His existence in the form of God**), but He would have lost His bride forever!
- h) Do you now recognize the magnitude of the forever decision He made in the Garden?

B. Betrayal and Arrest in Gethsemane

(1) Quintessential Meekness

(a) "Friend, why have you come?"

1. "And while He was still speaking, behold, **Judas**, one of the twelve, **with a great multitude with swords and clubs**, came from the chief priests and elders of the people. Now His betrayer had given them a **sign**, saying, "**Whomever I kiss, He is the One; seize**

Him.” Immediately he went up to Jesus and said, **“Greetings, Rabbi!”** and kissed Him. But Jesus said to him, **“Friend, why have you come?”** Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and took Him. And suddenly, **one of those who were with Jesus** stretched out his hand and drew his sword, struck the servant of the high priest, and **cut off his ear.** But Jesus said to him, **“Put your sword in its place, for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Or do you think that I cannot** now pray to My Father, and He will **provide Me with more than twelve legions of angels?** How then could the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must happen thus?” In that hour Jesus said to the multitudes, **“Have you come out, as against a robber, with swords and clubs to take Me? I sat daily with you, teaching in the temple,** and you did not seize Me. But all this was **done that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled.**” Then all the disciples forsook Him and fled.” Matthew 26:47-56 NKJV

(2) Betrayal and Arrest in Gethsemane

- (a) At that very moment, Judas shows up with a throng of armed Jewish men sent by the religious leaders.

1. Judas had prearranged a signal that the one he greets with a kiss is the man they should arrest.
2. He approaches Y'shua and says, "Greetings, Rabbi!" and kisses Him.
3. Y'shua, at first, acts like He does not know why they are there and impetuous Peter (*Peter is named in John's Gospel) leaps to His defense and cuts off the ear of the high priest's servant (**Y'shua heals the servant's ear in Luke account).
 - a) "Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, pulled it out and struck the high priest's slave, cutting off his right ear. (Now the slave's name was Malchus.) But Jesus said to *Peter, "**Put your sword back into its sheath!** Am I not to drink the cup that the Father has given me?"" John 18:10-11 NET
 - b) "Then one of them struck the high priest's slave, cutting off his right ear. But Jesus said, "Enough of this!" ****And he touched the man's ear and healed him.**" Luke 22:50-51 NET
 - c) Peter—put away your sword: your choice of weapon will be the same as your choice of death.

(b) Then, in what might be the greatest act of meekness in the history of mankind, Y'shua tells Peter to put away his sword and He heals the man.

1. Y'shua is well aware of the destiny of the meek:

“Blessed are the meek, for **they will inherit the earth.**” Matthew 5:5 NET

(c) This act of meekness goes beyond simply submitting to the moment, in order to display unconditional surrender to His Father's will, and to be a good example to those looking on. This was a necessary step in reclaiming the title deed to the earth—the meek will inherit the earth. More on that in a moment—but let's first take a look at His level of meekness.

1. I could command thousands of angels to rescue Me in an instant with one prayer—but I won't because we are in the midst of fulfilling prophecy!

a) A legion was a unit of 3,000–6,000 men in the ancient Roman army—so, could Y'shua have been saying I have at My disposal 36-72,000 warring angels to dispatch in an instant to annihilate this small faction of silly Jews!

b) See [Fire, Worms and Warring Angels](#)

c) See [Ambassadors with Swords in Chains](#)

d) See [Two Swords are Enough Because You Won't Even Need One](#)

1) "...**nothing new under the sun.**" Ecclesiastes 1:9

(d) A lesson in title deeds!

1. In order to gain back the title deed to the earth, this needs to happen. What better place than a garden, because a garden is where Satan first gained title to the earth when man fell.

a) "By the sweat of your brow you will eat food until **you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you will return.**" Genesis 3:19 NET

b) "The Lord God made garments from skin for Adam and his wife, and clothed them. And the Lord God said, "**Now that the man has become like one of us, knowing good and evil, he must not be allowed** to stretch out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat, and live forever." **So the Lord God expelled him from the orchard in Eden** to cultivate the ground from which he had been taken. **When he drove the man out,** he placed on the eastern side of the orchard in Eden **angelic sentries who used the flame of a whirling sword**

to guard the way to the tree of life.” Genesis
3:21-24 NET

2. Satan is the ruler of this world!
 - a) “Jesus said, “This voice has not come for my benefit but for yours. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out.” John 12:30-31 NET
 - b) “I will not speak with you much longer, **for the ruler of this world is coming. He has no power over me,** but I am doing just what the Father commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father. Get up, let us go from here.”” John 14:30-31 NET
 - c) “and concerning judgment, **because the ruler of this world has been condemned.**” John 16:11 NET
 - d) “among whom **the god of this age** has blinded the minds of those who do not believe so they would not see the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God.” 2 Corinthians 4:4 NET
 - e) “And although you were dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you formerly lived according to **this world’s present path, according to the ruler of the kingdom of the air,**

the ruler of the spirit that is now energizing the sons of disobedience,” Ephesians 2:1-2 NET

3. Satan possessed the title deed to the earth, as he clearly owned it to offer it to Y’shua. I own these things and I will give them to you, if...
 - a) “Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain, and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their grandeur. And he said to him, **“I will give you all these things if** you throw yourself to the ground and worship me.”” Matthew 4:8-9 NET
 4. And we know that they will be restored to Y’shua...
 - a) “Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven saying: **“The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ,** and he will reign for ever and ever.”” Revelation 11:15 NET
- (e) Y’shua then exposes these religious leaders for their cowardice.
1. Why are you doing this in such a secret and aggressive manner when I openly and often sat with you in the temple and you did nothing?

- a) We know that in Matthew 22 the religious leaders (Pharisees, Sadducees, Herodians, and Scribes) publicly interrogated Him in the temple for the final time and He left them speechless. At that point they would never again attempt to question Him openly, in fear of the masses recognizing their charade. That is why they needed a secret betrayal and trial in the middle of the night! (See [Mic Drop](#))
2. And again Y'shua acknowledges that this all must happen to fulfill prophecy.
- a) [from Zach 13:7]: 'I will strike the Shepherd, And the sheep of the flock will be scattered.
 - 1) *“That which has been **is what will be**, That which is done **is what will be done**, And there is **nothing new under the sun.**”* Ecclesiastes 1:9
NKJV

TRIALS

3. **Nothing new under the sun!**

A. Y'shua Faces the Sanhedrin

(1) The Court of Pretense

- (a) False Witnesses, False Accusations, Erroneous Verdict!

1. “And those who had laid hold of Jesus led Him away to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders were assembled. But **Peter followed Him at a distance to the high priest’s courtyard.** And he went in and sat with the servants to see the end. Now the chief priests, the elders, and all the council sought false testimony against Jesus to put Him to death, but found none. **Even though many false witnesses came forward, they found none. But at last two false witnesses came forward and said, “This fellow said, ‘I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days.’ ”** And the high priest arose and said to Him, **“Do You answer nothing? What is it these men testify against You?”** **But Jesus kept silent.** And the high priest answered and said to Him, **“I put You under oath by the living God: Tell us if You are the Christ, the Son of God!”** Jesus said to him, **“It is as you said.** Nevertheless, I say to you, hereafter you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming on the clouds of heaven.” Then the high priest tore his clothes, saying, **“He has spoken blasphemy! What further need do we have of witnesses? Look, now you have heard His**

blasphemy! What do you think?" **They answered** and said, "**He is deserving of death.**" Then they spat in His face and beat Him; and others struck Him with the palms of their hands, saying, "Prophecy to us, Christ! Who is the one who struck You?"" Matthew 26:57-68 NKJV

(2) Y'shua Faces the Sanhedrin

- (a) After His arrest, Y'shua is brought before Caiaphas, the high priest, and an assembly of religious leaders.
 1. Peter sat outside in the courtyard to see what would transpire.
 2. Inside the kangaroo court the leaders were willing to say and do anything.
 3. As long as they could end with a death sentence, they would even welcome false testimony.
 4. False witnesses came forward, but none could actually give false testimony. This is the same thing they did later on to Stephen. Corrupt leaders will do anything to stay in power!
 - a) "Then they **secretly instigated** some men to say, "We have heard this man speaking blasphemous words against Moses and God." They incited the people, the elders, and the experts in the law; then

they approached Stephen, seized him, and brought him before the council. **They brought forward false witnesses who said,** “This man does not stop saying things against this holy place and the law.”
Acts 6:11-13 NET

- 1) “...***nothing new under the sun.***” Ecclesiastes 1:9
5. And other than taking Y’shua’s actual words and twisting them, they had nothing to say.
6. They repeated their version of what they heard Him say a few days earlier in the temple. **“I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days.”* What He did say was, **“Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.”*
 - a) *[Two days earlier in the temple]* “So the Jews answered and said to Him, “What sign do You show to us, since **You do these things?** *[turning tables and accusing them of turning the temple into a den of robbers]*” Jesus answered and said to them, ***“Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.”** Then the Jews said, “It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will You raise it up in three days?” **But He was speaking of the temple of His body.** Therefore, **when He had**

risen from the dead, His disciples remembered that He had said this to them; and they believed the Scripture and the word which Jesus had said.”

John 2:18-22 NKJV

b) *They will also mock Him with these words later as He is hanging on the cross.

1) “...***nothing new under the sun.***” Ecclesiastes 1:9

7. The twisted words are good enough for the high priest. He asks Y’shua if He’d like to rebut the testimony and Y’shua says nothing.

a) “He was treated harshly and afflicted, **but he did not even open his mouth.** Like a lamb led to the slaughtering block, like a sheep silent before her shearers, **he did not even open his mouth.**” Isaiah

53:7 NET

8. The high priest then orders Y’shua to answer a question under oath, “Are the Christ, the Son of God?” “Yes!” Y’shua states emphatically, And soon all will see!

9. The high priest is so outraged that he tears his garments and screams, “Blasphemy! No further witnesses needed. Guilty as charged!”

10. The whole assembly of this illegal court agrees on a sentence of death. They spit at Him, beat Him, slap Him, and mock Him!
11. "Prophecy to us, Christ! Who is the one who struck You?"
 - a) *"That which has been **is what will be**, That which is done **is what will be done**, And there is **nothing new under the sun.**"* Ecclesiastes 1:9 NKJV

B. Peter Denies Y'shua and Weeps Bitterly

- (1) Nothing new under the sun!
 - (a) Three denials as predicted!
 1. "Now Peter sat outside in the courtyard. And a servant girl came to him, saying, "You also were with Jesus of Galilee." **But he denied it before them all, saying, "I do not know what you are saying."** And when he had gone out to the gateway, another girl saw him and said to those who were there, "This fellow also was with Jesus of Nazareth." **But again he denied with an oath, "I do not know the Man!"** And a little later those who stood by came up and said to Peter, "Surely you also are one of them, for your speech betrays you." **Then he began to curse and swear, saying, "I do not know the Man!"**

Immediately a rooster crowed. And Peter remembered the word of Jesus who had said to him, **“Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times.”** So he went out and wept bitterly.” Matthew 26:69-75 NKJV

(2) Peter Denies Y’shua and Weeps Bitterly

(a) Peter is sitting outside waiting to see what has happened in the court and he is recognized.

1. He is asked three times, by three different people, if He is one of Y’shua’s followers, and all three times he denies even knowing Y’shua, let alone being with Y’shua!
2. The third time they even recognize, by His accent, that he is a Galilean.
3. He is in such denial that he even curses and swears, “I do not know the Man!”
4. Then the rooster crowed, just as Y’shua predicted.
 - a) Peter’s three denials may be related to the three times he did not keep watch in the Garden, (Matthew 26:36-46) and His threefold restoration (John 21:15-19).
 - 1) *“That which has been **is what will be**, That which is done **is what will be done**, And there is*

nothing new under the sun." Ecclesiastes 1:9

NKJV

C. Y'shua Handed Over to Pontius Pilate

(1) Moved to a different jurisdiction...

(a) You do the dirty work!

1. "When morning came, all the chief priests and elders of the people **plotted against Jesus to put Him to death.** And when they had bound Him, they led Him away and **delivered Him to Pontius Pilate** the governor." Matthew 27:1-2 NKJV

(2) Y'shua Handed Over to Pontius Pilate

(a) Now, to complete their cowardice behavior, these angry, jealous, dishonest, and hypocritical leaders with an agenda, handed Y'shua over into the Roman judicial system, under governor Pontius Pilate, for Him to be put to death.

1. I want you to contemplate this for a moment!
2. The Roman legal system (which we will see in action with Paul throughout the book of Acts) is used for those who have broken Roman Law.
3. Other than local Roman leadership and their desire to "keep the peace" in regions in which they exercise

political and military dominion, the Romans are only interested in their subjects NOT violating Roman law.

4. They could not care less about Jewish religious matters, other than if what is transpiring causes local unrest that could threaten Roman rule, by inspiring rebellion and insurrection against Rome.
5. Clearly, Y'shua is NO PRACTICAL THREAT at all to Rome, nor its dominion throughout Judea.
6. His only threat is to Jewish leadership and their hypocritical religious system!
7. So, why transfer this legal case from the Sanhedrin to the Roman courts? It is precisely because Jewish leadership is so corrupt and filled with hypocrisy that they do so.
8. These angry, jealous, dishonest, and hypocritical leaders have an agenda, and they cannot obtain their objective inside their system because THEY KNOW Y'shua has done nothing deserving of capital punishment inside their system.
9. Again—contemplate this thought. If Y'shua claimed to be “the Christ, the Son of God” and He was wrong, then they would have a proper claim to execute Him for blasphemy inside their own system.

10. But time and again, they could not refute His claim, so even their verdict of blasphemy earlier was a bogus decision from a corrupt Sanhedrin.

11. Men in power will do anything to stay in power, even manipulate the courts!

1) *“That which has been **is what will be**, That which is done **is what will be done**, And there is **nothing new under the sun.**” Ecclesiastes 1:9
NKJV*

(3) Men in power will do anything to stay in power, even manipulate the courts!

(a) Paul oversaw a spontaneous Jewish court case in which Stephen was found guilty because of the testimony of false witnesses, and then he was executed.

1. **“They incited** the people, the elders, and the experts in the law; then they approached Stephen, seized him, and **brought him before the council**. They **brought forward *false witnesses** who said, “This man does not stop saying things against this holy place and the law.” Acts 6:12-13 NET

(b) Stephen gives a perfect defense against the false claims. (READ Acts 6-7), but it did not matter because a

decision was already made. (Sound familiar?) And who was there consenting to the whole charade? Paul!

1. “But **they covered their ears**, shouting out with a loud voice, and rushed at him with one intent. When they had driven him out of the city, **they began to stone him, and *the [false] witnesses laid their cloaks at the feet of a young man named Saul.**” Acts

7:57-58 NET

2. “And **Saul agreed completely with killing him.** Now on that day a great persecution began against the church in Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were forced to scatter throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria.” Acts 8:1 NET

- a) Men in power will do anything to stay in power, even manipulate the courts! “...*there is **nothing new under the sun.***” Ecclesiastes 1:9 NKJV

(4) Don't think they had the authority to handle the case within their Jewish courts?

- (a) They certainly did. Just after they killed Stephen, Saul (Paul) solicited letters of approval to conduct abductions and trials with the right to do so against those who were “blasphemous” for believing Y'shua was the Messiah.

1. "But Saul was **trying to destroy the church**; entering one house after another, he **dragged off both men and women and put them in prison.**" Acts 8:3 NET
2. "Meanwhile **Saul, still breathing out threats to murder the Lord's disciples, went to the high priest and requested letters** from him to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, either men or women, **he could bring them as prisoners to Jerusalem.**" Acts 9:1-2 NET
 - a) The reason the religious leaders cannot order Y'shua's execution in their court system is not because they have no ability to do so; it is because their false witnesses accused Him of nothing deserving of death. And even though His "blasphemous claim" to the high priest that He was "the Christ, the Son of God" would be enough for a death sentence, unfortunately for them, they could NOT PROVE HIS CLAIM WAS FALSE!
 - b) So, all they could do was scream blasphemy and then quickly remove Him from their court system, so He could be accused in the Roman system of doing something deserving of death (which could

only be that He as disturbing Rome's "peaceful rule."

- c) Men in power will do anything to stay in power, even manipulate the courts! "...*there is **nothing new under the sun.***" Ecclesiastes 1:9 NKJV

D. Judas Hangs Himself

(1) "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood."

- (a) Remorse: full of regret, regretful, sad, contrite, repentant, penitent, guilt-ridden!

1. "Then Judas, **His betrayer, seeing that He had been condemned, was remorseful and brought back the thirty pieces of silver** to the chief priests and elders, saying, "**I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.**" And they said, "**What is that to us? You see to it!**" Then he threw down the pieces of silver in the temple and departed, and went and hanged himself. But the chief priests took the silver pieces and said, "**It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, because they are the price of blood.**" And **they consulted together and bought with them the potter's field**, to bury strangers in. Therefore that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. Then was fulfilled what was ***spoken by Jeremiah the prophet**, saying, "And they

took the thirty pieces of silver, the value of Him who was priced, whom they of the children of Israel priced, and gave them for the potter's field, as the Lord directed me." Matthew 27:3-10 NKJV

(2) Judas Hangs Himself

- (a) Once Judas recognizes the fruit His actions, he regrets his choice and goes back to the the religious leaders to refund the thirty pieces of silver they paid him for the betrayal.
 1. It's like a ***false witness** going back and saying, "I lied under oath I want to change my testimony." "I lied, I recant, Y'shua is innocent and should not be executed!"
 2. Then we see another level of religious leadership corruption.
 3. "What is it to us? You gave your testimony and we don't care if you lied. That's on you!" Besides, we already knew you were lying, because we paid you for your testimony!
 4. Judas throws down the silver he was paid in the temple and leaves and in his guilt and remorse he commits suicide.

5. I often wonder if His remorse could have redeemed him. (**Remorse:** full of regret, regretful, sad, contrite, **repentant**, penitent, guilt-ridden!) Had he committed the unforgivable sin? The scripture says...
- a) *“For this reason I tell you, people will be forgiven for every sin and blasphemy, but the **blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven**. Whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven. But whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven, either in this age or in the age to come.”* (Matthew 12:31-32 NET)
- b) Of which was Judas guilty? I leave that for you to contemplate for the moment!
6. The Gospel Account says the Judas committed suicide via hanging. But for clarity, this is does not seem to be a hanging from a noose around the neck as traditionally viewed. The Book of Acts gives us clarifying information (*and Peter’s use of the Psalms may also hint at Judas’ eternal standing*).
- a) [Peter speaking] **“Brothers, the scripture had to be fulfilled that the Holy Spirit foretold through David concerning Judas – who became the guide for those who arrested Jesus – **for he was counted***

as one of us [*but was not really one of us—I John 2:19*] and received a share in this ministry.” (**Now this man Judas acquired a field with the reward of his unjust deed, and falling headfirst he burst open in the middle and all his intestines gushed out.** This became known to all who lived in Jerusalem, so that in their own language they called that field Hakeldama, that is, “**Field of Blood.**”) “**For it is written in the book of Psalms,** ‘*Let his house become deserted, and let there be no one to live in it, [Ps. 69:25]*’ and ‘*Let another take his position of responsibility. [**Ps. 109:8]*’”
Acts 1:16-20 NET

- b) ****[Psalms 109:6-8] “Appoint an evil man to testify against him [Judas]! May an accuser stand at his right side! When he is judged, he will be found guilty [leads us to believe he was never really one of them]! Then his prayer will be regarded as sinful [not forgiven]. May his days be few [suicide]! May another take his job [Matthias is chosen in Acts 1:21-26]!”** NET
- c) ***“They went out from us, but they did not really belong to us, because if they had belonged to us,**

they would have remained with us. But they went out from us **to demonstrate that all of them do not belong to us.**" 1 John 2:19 NET

7. Falling **headfirst** he burst open in the middle and all his intestines gushed out... it is more likely Judas hung himself of his own sword (to fall on one's own sword). That would explain his intestines gushing out.
 - a) [Strong's Greek 4248](#) *headlong, falling headlong, prone. leaning (falling) forward
 - b) As with many idioms, the phrase to fall on one's sword started out as a term with a literal meaning.
 - c) To fall on one's sword often means to take responsibility for something that has gone wrong, in particular, to resign from one's position as a way to acknowledge responsibility for something that has gone wrong (Certainly this applies to Judas).
 - d) In Ancient Rome, it had **the literal meaning of committing suicide by using one's own sword.**
8. King Saul did it, so it was not unfamiliar to first-century Jews!
 - a) "Saul said to his armor bearer, "Draw your sword and stab me with it! Otherwise these uncircumcised people will come, stab me, and

torture me.” But his armor bearer refused to do it, because he was very afraid. **So Saul took his sword and fell on it.** When his armor bearer saw that Saul was dead, he also fell on his own sword and died with him.” 1 Samuel 31:4-5 NET

9. The chief priests know the money is dirty, so they can't add it back to the temple treasury.
10. So, they continue in their corruption as one corrupt deed births and fuels the next.
11. They have a subcommittee meeting and decide to use the blood money to purchase a potter's field, a public burial place to bury foreigners, indigent people, and criminals. A wonderful ministry to the community to disguise their wretchedness!
12. The field they purchase will forever be known as the Field of Blood.
 - a) Does this not indicate that using ill-gained money, and reasoning that you can use it for ministry, is a bad idea?
13. Matthew then calls on the fulfillment of prophecy as the reason for the decision to buy a field. And, he names Jeremiah as the prophet speaking of the thirty pieces of silver and the potter's field.

- a) In reality and most accurately, Matthew is quoting from Zechariah 11:12-13
- 1) “Then I said to them, “If it seems good to you, pay me my wages, but if not, forget it.” **So they weighed out my payment – thirty pieces of silver.** The Lord then said to me, “Throw to the potter that exorbitant sum at which they valued me!” **So I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw them to the potter at the temple of the Lord.”** Zechariah 11:12-13 NET
 - 2) There are less complete inferences to such in Jeremiah 18:2-6; 19:1-13; and 32:6-15, but the better reference is clearly Zechariah.
- b) What is the reason for such and is this a mistake? Well, the Scriptures are inerrant so it can't be a mistake. And scholars offer many varying explanations for such. But as I comb through them, the best is this in my opinion. (And think about how there were no chapters and verses inserted into the Jewish Bible at that time). Often writers quote specific texts and at other times they referenced ideas.

- c) And, at the time of the New Testament, Jeremiah was at the head of the Prophet's section of the Jewish Bible. And it was a common, at times, to cite ideas by using a reference to a scripture section by the book that headed that section.
- d) Even Y'shua used general citations at times, like when He cited the Law, the Prophets, and the Psalms, using the first book to represent the whole section.
- 1) "So he said to them, "You foolish people – how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Wasn't it necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and enter into his glory?" **Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets,** he interpreted to them the things written about himself in all the scriptures." Luke 24:25-27 NET
- 2) "Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that **everything written about me in the law of Moses and the prophets and the psalms** must be fulfilled."" Luke 24:44 NET

E. Y'shua Faces Pilate

(1) "Are You the King of the Jews?"

(a) Don't you hear what they are saying about you?

1. "Now Jesus stood before the governor. And the governor asked Him, saying, **"Are You the King of the Jews?"** Jesus said to him, **"It is as you say."** And while He was being accused by the chief priests and elders, He answered nothing. Then Pilate said to Him, **"Do You not hear how many things they testify against You?"** But **He answered him not one word**, so that the governor marveled greatly." Matthew 27:11-14 NKJV

(2) Y'shua Faces Pilate

(a) Pilate asks Y'shua if He is the King of the Jews. He says, "Yes!"

1. Meanwhile, the religious leaders are standing in the background leveling charges against Him and Y'shua completely ignores them.
2. Pilate asks Him if He is paying attention to the onslaught of accusations.
3. Y'shua ignores Him as well and says NOTHING, and Pilate is astonished at Y'shua's approach.
 - a) "...like a sheep silent before her shearers, **he did not even open his mouth.**" Isaiah 53:7 NET

EXECUTION

4. The First Half of the Most Significant Event in History

A. Take the Place of Barabbas

(1) Barabbas or Y'shua

(a) Their blind jealousy and hatred runs so deep that they would choose a notorious criminal over the Christ!

1. “Now at the feast the **governor was accustomed to releasing** to the multitude one prisoner whom they wished. And at that time they had **a notorious prisoner called Barabbas**. Therefore, when they had gathered together, Pilate said to them, “**Whom do you want me to release to you?** Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?” For he knew that they had handed Him over because of envy. While he was sitting on the judgment seat, **his wife sent to him, saying, “Have nothing to do with that just Man, for I have suffered many things today in a dream because of Him.”** But the chief priests and elders **persuaded the multitudes that they should ask for Barabbas** and destroy Jesus. The governor answered and said to them, “**Which of the two do you want me to release to you?**” They said, “Barabbas!” Pilate said to them, “**What then shall I do with Jesus who is called**

Christ?” They all said to him, **“Let Him be crucified!”** Then the governor said, **“Why, what evil has He done?”** But they cried out all the more, saying, **“Let Him be crucified!”** When Pilate saw that he could not prevail at all, but rather that a tumult was rising, he took water and washed his hands before the multitude, saying, **“I am innocent of the blood of this just Person. You see to it.”** And all the people answered and said, **“His blood be on us and on our children.”** Then he released Barabbas to them; and when **he had scourged Jesus, he delivered Him to be crucified.”** Matthew 27:15-26 NKJV

(2) Take the Place of Barabbas

(a) As we have already learned, local Roman governance always aimed to keep peace among those whom they ruled over. As such, Pilate had a tradition of releasing a Jewish prisoner of the people’s choice around the Passover.

1. In custody was a notorious prisoner name Barabbas whom Pilate offered to release, as an option, or he could release Y’shua.
2. He figured he’d offer the greatest possible disparity between options imaginable.

3. Barabbas was as bad as it gets and Pilate was certain Y'shua was only incarcerated because they were jealous of Him.
4. He was a threat to disturb the "good thing they had going" in their religious program that was working well to keep the Jewish people under their heavy-handed religious system—to their personal benefit!
5. At the same time, He figured Barabbas was so bad that there was no way they would choose him for release. Even with how much they disdained Y'shua, Barabbas was worse!
6. Nevertheless, while Pilate was thinking about these things, his wife sent a message to him telling him that she had a vision that He should not get involved in this Jewish persecution scam of a "just man".
7. Even so, the religious leaders convinced the people to insist that Barabbas be released and to hold Y'shua. Pilate was shocked!
8. "What should I do with Him," Pilate asks. "Crucify him!" they insisted. And even when he questioned, "Why, what evil has He done?" They just dug in their heels and demanded He be crucified!

9. Pilate realized he had to give them what they wanted in order to avoid the risk of an uprising (a tumult was rising), so he publicly washed his hands of the matter, “I am innocent of His blood. You take responsibility for His execution.”
10. They agreed to his terms: “His blood is on us and our children.”
11. Think about it... Pilate has such a weak character that He won't intervene, even though His wife had a prophetic vision to stay far away from these corrupt proceedings. He capitulates to the Jews, while he simultaneously, in his own mind, washes his hands from any guilt for spilling innocent blood.
 - a) Note: Luke inserts an interaction with Herod before the release of Barabbas. This is Herod Antipas son of Herod the Great.
 - b) “Now when Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. **When he learned that he was from Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him over to Herod, who also happened to be in Jerusalem at that time.** When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had long desired to see him, because he had heard about him and was hoping to see

him perform some miraculous sign. **So Herod questioned him at considerable length; Jesus gave him no answer [again Is. 53]. The chief priests and the experts in the law were there, vehemently accusing him.** Even Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him. Then, dressing him in elegant clothes, **Herod sent him back to Pilate. That very day Herod and Pilate became friends** with each other, for prior to this they had been enemies. Then Pilate called together the chief priests, the rulers, and the people, and said to them, "You brought me this man as one who was misleading the people. **When I examined him before you, I did not find this man guilty of anything you accused him of doing** [*He's a spotless Lamb*]. Neither did Herod, for he sent him back to us. **Look, he has done nothing deserving death.** I will therefore have him flogged and release him.'" Luke 23:6-16 NET

12. Barabbas is released and Y'shua is scourged and delivered to be crucified. Luke and John add important details.

a) “But they all shouted out together, “Take this man away! Release Barabbas for us!” **(This was a man who had been thrown into prison for an insurrection started in the city, and for murder.)** Pilate addressed them once again because he wanted to release Jesus. But they kept on shouting, **“Crucify, crucify him!”** A third time he said to them, **“Why? What wrong has he done? I have found him guilty of no crime deserving death. I will therefore flog him and release him.”** **But they were insistent,** demanding with loud shouts that he be crucified. And their shouts prevailed. So Pilate decided that their demand should be granted. **He released the man they asked for, who had been thrown in prison for insurrection and murder. But he handed Jesus over to their will.”**

Luke 23:18-25 NET

b) John best shows the level of Jewish leadership corruption: **“From this point on, Pilate tried to release him. But the Jewish leaders shouted out, “If you release this man, you are no friend of Caesar! [manipulation] **Everyone who claims to be a king opposes Caesar!**”** When Pilate heard these

words he brought Jesus outside and sat down on the judgment seat in the place called "The Stone Pavement" (Gabbatha in Aramaic). **(Now it was the day of preparation for the Passover, about noon.)** *[He will be on the cross by noon]* Pilate said to the Jewish leaders, "Look, here is your king!" Then they shouted out, "Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!" Pilate asked, **"Shall I crucify your king?"** **The high priests replied, "We have no king except Caesar!"** *[talk about blasphemy]* Then Pilate handed him over to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus," John 19:12-16
NET

- c) **Scourged:** a punishment inflicted after a sentence of death has been pronounced. A Roman scourging was an excruciating punishment. The victim was stripped of his clothes and bound to a post with his hand fastened above him (sometime on the ground). He would be whipped incessantly with a leather strap with chards of bone and lead inserts into its ends. While the Jews allowed 39 lashes, the Romans had no such limitations. Many

died from this beating even prior to getting to the means of execution they were facing.

- 1) *“That which has been **is what will be**, That which is done **is what will be done**, And there is **nothing new under the sun.**” Ecclesiastes 1:9*
NKJV

B. The Soldiers Mock Y’shua

(1) Adding Insult to Injury

(a) The Crown of Thorns

1. “Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole garrison around Him. And they **stripped Him and put a scarlet robe on Him**. When they had **twisted a crown of thorns**, they put it on His head, and **a reed in His right hand**. And they **bowed the knee** before Him and mocked Him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” Then they spat on Him, and took the reed and struck Him on the head. And when they had mocked Him, **they took the robe off Him, put His own clothes on Him, and led Him away to be crucified.**” Matthew 27:27-31
NKJV

(2) The Soldiers Mock Y’shua

- (a) Pilate's soldiers take Y'shua into the common hall where the whole garrison is gathered.
1. They stripped His torn body and placed a scarlet robe on Him.
 2. Then they forced a braided wreath of thorns on His head, and placed a reed in His right hand like a king's scepter.
 3. They kneeled before Him and ridiculed Him, saluting Him as the King of the Jews.
 4. They spat on Him and struck Him on the head.
 5. Then they put His bloody garment back on Him and sent Him off to be crucified.

C. The King on the Cross

(1) The Crucifixion

(a) THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS

1. "Now as they came out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name. Him they **compelled to bear His cross**. And when they had come to a place called Golgotha, that is to say, Place of a Skull, they gave Him sour wine mingled with gall to drink. But when He had tasted it, **He would not drink. Then they crucified Him, and divided His garments, casting lots, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by**

the prophet: "They divided My garments among them, And for My clothing they cast lots." Sitting down, **they kept watch over Him** there. And they put up over His head the **accusation written against Him: THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS.** Then **two robbers** were crucified with Him, one on the **right** and another on the **left**. And those who passed by blasphemed Him, wagging their heads and saying, "**You who destroy the temple and build it in three days, save Yourself! If You are the Son of God, come down from the cross.**" Likewise the chief priests also, mocking with the scribes and elders, said, "**He saved others; Himself He cannot save. If He is the King of Israel, let Him now come down from the cross,** and we will believe Him. He trusted in God; let Him deliver Him now if He will have Him; for He said, 'I am the Son of God.' " Even the robbers who were crucified with Him reviled Him with the same thing." Matthew 27:32-44 NKJV

(2) The King on the Cross

- (a) They had to find a man to help him carry His cross as He was so weakened from the beating. They brought him to the Place of a Skull:

1. They tried to feed Him sour wine mixed with gall. He would not drink.
2. They crucified Him and cast lots for His garments fulfilling the prophecy of Psalm 22:18.
 - a) *“They divide My garments among them, And for My clothing they cast lots.”* Psalms 22:18 NKJV
3. Then they sat and watched Him. And they placed the indictment that was used against Him over His head.
THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS.
 - a) “Now Jesus stood before the governor. And the governor asked Him, saying, **“Are You the King of the Jews?”** Jesus said to him, “It is as you say.””
Matthew 27:11 NKJV
4. He was crucified with two thieves next to Him—one on the right and one on the left. His interaction with the thieves is better explained by Luke.
 - a) “One of the criminals who was hanging there railed at him, saying, “Aren’t you the Christ? Save yourself and us!” But the other rebuked him, saying, “Don’t you fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And **we rightly so, for we are getting what we deserve for what we did, but this man has done nothing**

wrong.” Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingdom.” And Jesus said to him, “I tell you the truth, **today you will be with me in paradise** [**likely the man on Y’shua’s right*].””

Luke 23:39-43 NET

b) *It never says which thief is on which side, however when we use Y’shua’s warning of the coming judgement in Matthew 25:31-46, we see the sheep on the right (they are blessed) and the goats on the left (they are cursed), I’d predict the same about the thieves on His right and left.

c) “...***nothing new under the sun.***” Ecclesiastes 1:9

5. Those who passed by the cross mocked Him using His own words about destroying the temple and rebuilding it in three days! “*You who destroy the temple and build it in three days, save Yourself!*” This is the very same thing the false witnesses used to indict Him when they twisted His words.

a) “...But at last two false witnesses came forward and said, “*This fellow said, ‘I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days.’*””
Matthew 26:60-61 NKJV

b) “...***nothing new under the sun.***” Ecclesiastes 1:9

6. Then they used the convicting words that the High Priest asked about Him being the Son of God, to mock Him further. *“If You are the Son of God, come down from the cross.”*
 - a) ...“I put You under oath by the living God: *Tell us if You are the Christ, the Son of God!*” Jesus said to him, “It is as you said...” Matthew 26:63-64 NKJV
 - b) *“...nothing new under the sun.”* Ecclesiastes 1:9
7. The religious leaders also ridiculed Him.
 - a) “How can you save others but can’t save Yourself.”
 - b) “If He is the King of Israel, let Him supernaturally get off that cross and we will believe His claims.”
 - c) He says He’s the Son of God—so God should save His Son!
8. Even the thieves agreed and mocked Him.

D. Y’shua Dies on the Cross

- (1) “Truly this was the Son of God!”
 - (a) He breathed His last breath...
 1. “Now **from the sixth hour until the ninth hour** there was darkness over all the land. And about the **ninth hour** Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, **“Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?”** that is, **“My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?”** Some of those who

stood there, when they heard that, said, “This Man is calling for Elijah!” Immediately one of them ran and took a sponge, filled it with sour wine and put it on a reed, and offered it to Him to drink. **The rest said, “Let Him alone; let us see if Elijah will come to save Him.”** And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, and **yielded up His spirit.** Then, behold, **the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom;** and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split, and the graves were opened; and **many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised; and coming out of the graves after His resurrection, they went into the holy city and appeared to many.** So when the **centurion** and those with him, who were guarding Jesus, saw the earthquake and the things that had happened, they feared greatly, saying, **“Truly this was the Son of God!”** And many women who followed Jesus from Galilee, ministering to Him, were there looking on from afar, among whom were **Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Joses,** and the mother of Zebedee’s sons.” Matthew 27:45-56 NKJV

(2) Y’shua Dies on the Cross

- (a) From noon until 3pm it became very dark.
1. Just before 3pm Y'shua cried out, "Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?" that is, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"
 2. "Eli" seems to be a shortened form of Elijah so they think He is calling on Elijah to save Him!" (Elijah means Yahweh is My God.)
 3. One of the spectators tried to give Him a drink, but the others urged Him to leave Him alone to see if Elijah would come rescue Him.
 4. No doubt they knew that Elijah must come before the Messiah (so maybe they were proving to themselves that He was NOT the Messiah).
 - a) "*Behold, **I will send you Elijah the prophet Before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord. And he will turn The hearts** of the fathers to the children, And the hearts of the children to their fathers, Lest I come and strike the earth with a curse.*" Malachi 4:5-6 NKJV
 - b) That is because they missed John the Baptist as having come "in the spirit of Elijah" ... "**He will also go before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, 'to turn the hearts** of the fathers to the children,'

and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.”” Luke 1:17 NKJV

5. John then fills in some other details...
 - a) “Now standing beside Jesus’ cross were his mother, his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. **So when Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing there, he said to his mother, “Woman, look, here is your son!” He then said to his disciple, “Look, here is your mother!”** From that very time the disciple took her into his own home.” John 19:25-27 NET
6. At that moment, Y’shua died.
7. Immediately the curtain that separated the Holy Place from the Holy of Holies in the temple was torn from top to bottom. The veil was taken out of the way!
 - a) “But even to this day, when Moses is read, a veil lies on their heart. **Nevertheless when one turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away.”** II Corinthians 3:15-16 NKJV
8. Then an earthquake caused rocks to crumble and graves to crack open.

9. The first mass resurrection took place from those open tombs after His resurrection. Then, those saints went into the city and appeared to many people as a witness. *“and **coming out of the graves after His resurrection** [the Firstfruits], they went into the holy city and appeared to many.”* Matthew 27:53 NKJV
- a) “After that **He was seen by over five hundred brethren** at once, of whom the greater part remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep.” I Corinthians 15:6 NKJV
- b) “But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, **even so in Christ all shall be made alive.** But each one in his own order: ***Christ the firstfruits, afterward those who are Christ’s at His coming. Then comes the end,** when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power.” I Corinthians 15:20-24 NKJV
10. The centurion guarding Y’shua, and others with him, believed He was the Son of God after all they had

witnessed. John's Gospel gives greater detail right before Joseph comes for the body!

- a) **“Then, because it was the day of preparation,** so that the bodies should not stay on the crosses on the Sabbath (**for that Sabbath was an especially important one—[a High Day]**), the Jewish leaders asked Pilate to have the victims' legs broken and the bodies taken down. So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the two men who had been crucified with Jesus, first the one and then the other. But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. **But one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and blood and water flowed out immediately.** And the person who saw it has testified (and his testimony is true, and he knows that he is telling the truth), so that you also may believe. **For these things happened so that the scripture would be fulfilled, “Not a bone of his will be broken.”** And again another scripture says, “They will look on the one whom they have pierced.”” John 19:31-37 NET

E. Y'shua Buried in Joseph's Tomb

(1) A Rich Man's Tomb

(a) Pilate commanded the body to be given to him.

1. "Now when evening had come, there came a **rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who himself had also become a disciple of Jesus.** This man went to Pilate and **asked for the body of Jesus.** Then Pilate commanded the body to be given to him. When Joseph had taken the body, **he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, and laid it in his new tomb** which he had hewn out of the rock; and he rolled a large stone against the door of the tomb, and departed. And **Mary Magdalene was there, and the other Mary, sitting opposite the tomb.**" Matthew 27:57-61 NKJV

(2) Y'shua Buried in Joseph's Tomb

(a) Right before sundown (before Passover began) Joseph of Arimathea (a wealthy disciple) went to Pilate to ask permission to take down the body of Jesus.

1. Pilate gave him permission to do so and remanded the body into his care.
2. Joseph took the body, wrapped it in a burial garb, and placed it in his new tomb (a rich man's tomb), a cave carved from rock; and then they covered the entrance with large stone.

- a) “They intended to bury him with criminals, **but he ended up in a rich man’s tomb**, because he had committed no violent deeds, nor had he spoken deceitfully.” Isaiah 53:9 NET
- 3. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary, sat at the tomb.
- (3) But He is not going to stay there!
 - (a) Our Holy One will not see corruption
 - 1. “For You will not leave my soul in Sheol, **Nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption.**” Psalms 16:10 NKJV
 - 2. “For **this corruptible must put on incorruption**, and this mortal must put on immortality. **So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality**, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: “**Death is swallowed up in victory.**”” I Corinthians 15:53-54 NKJV

F. Pilate Sets a Guard at the Tomb

- (1) Secure the Tomb
 - (a) Why? Because if the disciples fake this guy’s resurrection, it will be worse than if we never killed Him in the first place. If this is the case, can you imagine how bad it will be when He actually resurrects!

1. **“On the next day, which followed the Day of Preparation, the chief priests and Pharisees gathered together to Pilate, saying, “Sir, we remember, while He was still alive, how that deceiver said, ‘After three days I will rise.’ Therefore command that the tomb be made secure until the third day, lest His disciples come by night and steal Him away, and say to the people, ‘He has risen from the dead.’ So the last deception will be worse than the first.”** Pilate said to them, “You have a guard; go your way, make it as secure as you know how.” So they went and made the tomb secure, sealing the stone and setting the guard.” Matthew 27:62-66 NKJV

a) Please see “Note of Special Interest” on page 28 to review the importance of the Day of Preparation.

(2) Pilate Sets a Guard at the Tomb

(a) The next day, which was the first day of Unleavened Bread, the religious leaders met with Pilate.

1. They related their concern that there would be some attempt, by Y’shua’s disciples, to steal His body, a plot to deceive many into believing He rose from the grave three days later, just as He predicted He would.

2. They requested that the tomb be guarded, at least until three days and three nights were past, to prevent His disciples from pulling off the scandal, which would allow them to claim, 'He has risen from the dead.'
3. The religious leaders predict that if Y'shua's disciples were able to pull that off, the ramifications of that deception would be far worse than had they let Y'shua live and keep preaching that He was the Messiah.
4. Pilate granted their wishes.

G. Nothing new under the sun

(1) *That which has been is what will be, That which is done is what will be done...*

(a) Let's take advantage of this!

1. *"That which has been **is what will be**, That which is done **is what will be done**, And there is **nothing new under the sun**." Ecclesiastes 1:9 NKJV*

(b) What will be remembered of you?

1. "Assuredly, I say to you, wherever this gospel is preached in the whole world, **what you have done and will do** will also be told as a memorial of the good work you have done for Christ."

- a) Like the woman of Matthew 26:13 who anointed Christ with her expensive oil!
- b) Can you imagine Christians living like Christians should? Can you imagine imitating Him and walking in His footsteps? Can you imagine walking in the truth—walking just as He walked?
- (c) Walk in His Footsteps—Walk in Truth
 - 1. “Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers. For I rejoiced greatly when brethren came and **testified of the truth that is in you, just as you walk in the truth.** I have no greater joy than to hear that my children **walk in truth.**” III John 1:2-4 NKJV
- (d) Walk in His Footsteps—Imitate Him
 - 1. “Beloved, do not imitate what is evil, but what is good. **He who does good is of God, but he who does evil has not seen God.**” III John 1:11 NKJV
 - 2. “Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ.” I Corinthians 11:1 NKJV
- (e) Walk in His Footsteps—Walk in Faith
 - 1. “As you therefore have **received Christ Jesus** the Lord, **so walk in Him, rooted** and **built up** in Him and **established in the faith**, as you have been taught,

abounding in it with thanksgiving.” Colossians 2:6-7
NKJV

- (f) Walk in His Footsteps—Walk just as He walked
 - 1. “But **whoever keeps His word**, truly the **love of God is perfected in him**. By this we know that we are in Him. **He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.**” I John 2:5-6 NKJV
 - a) You will be identified as being in Him by what your walk looks like. Walk like He walked...keep His word; let the love of God flow through you.
 - 1) And if you are ever off track, you will be reminded!
- (g) Walk in His Footsteps—This is the way, walk in it
 - 1. “Your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, **“This is the way, walk in it,”** Whenever you turn to the right hand Or whenever you turn to the left.”
Isaiah 30:21 NKJV
 - a) If you are ever out of step with God, you will be reminded!

Summary: PREPARATION

1. The Final Stage is Set

A. The Plot to Kill Y'shua

(1) The Diabolical Scheme

- (a) Two days from the feast and the religious elite are panicking.

(2) The Plot to Kill Y'shua

- (a) It is two days before the Passover and Y'shua is going to be the Passover sacrifice (crucified).

1. The religious leaders assemble with Caiaphas, the high priest, to plot to take Jesus "by trickery" and kill Him.

2. They want to do it "before" the feast so it does not cause any pushback from the people.

- a) Remember — Y'shua silenced them publicly once and for all after all the main factions of the religious elite (Pharisees, Sadducee, Herodians, Scribes) interrogated Him and were left in stunned silence.

- b) Of course, the only way they could trap Him was by plotting in secret! Nothing new with mankind. Men in power will do anything to stay in power!

B. The Anointing at Bethany

- (1) A Memory for ALL TIME!
 - (a) Prepared for Burial
- (2) The Anointing at Bethany
 - (a) A woman anoints Y'shua with an expensive flask of oil and His disciples think it's a poor use of resources that could benefit the poor.
 1. Y'shua makes them aware of the prophetic moment.

“The poor will always be around, but it is the end of this phase of My ministry with you and this is the anointing for My burial.”
 2. I promise that what she has done is so important that throughout the rest of history, wherever the good news is spread, what she did here will be shared as part of the story.
 - a) Are we not sharing her story at this very moment 2000 years later?
 - b) And if we just rewrite Y'shua's words a bit, and take her out and insert you, should His words not be equally as true?

C. Judas Agrees to Betray Y'shua

- (1) The Secret Plot
 - (a) Judas is the one who approaches the religious leaders...
- (2) Judas Agrees to Betray Y'shua

- (a) Judas goes to the religious leaders and asks them to make him an offer.
 - 1. He is willing to turn Y'shua over so bogus accusations can be levied against Him.
 - 2. They pay him thirty pieces of silver, so from that moment forward Judas looks for the best opportunity to sell Him out
 - a) This is something he will soon come to regret with such intensity that it will cost him his life and, seemingly, his eternal soul!

D. Y'shua in the Upper Room (the Last Supper)

- (1) Go Prepare
 - (a) They Prepared for Passover
- (2) Y'shua in the Upper Room (the Last Supper)
 - (a) Go Prepare: The disciples inquire where they should prepare for the Passover.
 - 1. He sends His disciples into the city to find a location to prepare.
 - 2. They find a spot and the twelve meet there that night to begin preparation for that year's Spring Feasts: Passover, Unleavened Bread and Firstfruits.
 - a) These feasts are prophetic rehearsal for the death, burial and resurrection.

b) Look at how these shadow pictures show up throughout the New Testament!

(3) Note of Special Interest

(a) Interestingly, Matthew says they asked to prepare on “the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread,” which is quite literally impossible, because the first day of Unleavened Bread is AFTER the Passover is eaten.

1. In the above sermon we review the entire Last Supper encounter in detail from John’s account (known as the Upper Room discourse). His account spans five entire chapters (13-17) and is the longest recorded sermon in Y’shua’s ministry, whereas the Synoptic Gospels only record highlights of the table encounter.
2. Just consider the idea of the preparation day as you review these scriptures and you will see that the preparation day is the day BEFORE Passover and the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread is the day AFTER Passover.
 - a) He was crucified as the Passover Lamb BEFORE Passover and He is taken down off the cross before sunset (which then becomes Passover) and He is buried in a nearby tomb so He would be in the

grave before sunset when the Sabbath of the first Day of Unleavened Bread begins.

E. Predicted Betrayal

(1) We both know who it is...

(a) One of you will betray Me...

(2) Predicted Betrayal

(a) Y'shua reveals that one disciple among them is a traitor and they all want to know who it is.

1. I am about to show you—and trust Me, even though it must happen this way, the guilty party would be better off never having been born.

2. Judas asks, “Rabbi, is it I?” Yes!

a) It's crazy that he would even ask, as we saw earlier that he was the one who initiated the subversion.

b) Judas went to the religious leaders and asked them to make him an offer to turn Y'shua in for bogus crimes.

c) The more this narrative comes into focus, the more you realize that nothing ever changes with man! Being paid for false testimony; money for lies; bribes for coverups or policy decisions, and the willingness to use absolute treachery to stay in

power— “...there is certainly *nothing new under the sun!* ”

F. The Bread and the Wine (Body and Blood)

(1) Y’shua Appropriates Passover Elements

(a) The Bread, the Wine, and the Kingdom of Passover!

(2) At the table...

(a) The Bread and the Wine (Body and Blood)

1. Y’shua breaks the bread... “Take, eat; this is My body.”

a) The unleavened (sinless) bread of life. The bread used to survive the exodus at the first Passover.

2. Y’shua takes the cup of wine... “Drink, this is My blood of the new covenant.” It will be shed for the remission of sins. This is the third cup of wine at Passover — the cup of redemption

a) In Exodus 6:6-7, there are four main “I will” promises of Yahweh that are represented at each Passover by four cups of wine.

1) Cup of Sanctification:

2) Cup of Judgment:

3) Cup of Redemption: This is the cup we see in the Last Supper Passover Rehearsal:

4) Cup of the Kingdom: [Y'shua did not drink this one at the Last Supper!]

(b) He lifts the forth cup of wine (the cup of the kingdom) and says *"I **will not** drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father's kingdom."*

1. Luke Best tells us what is coming and when He will drink again with us (the 4th cup)...
2. John's account of Y'shua's teaching at the Last Supper encompasses five chapters (13-17) and the entire narrative is a sermon about the coming Kingdom
3. They leave after dinner and head back to Mount of Olives, to the Garden of Gethsemane.

G. Peter's Predicted Denial of Christ

(1) I would NEVER....

(a) Instead of walking in Y'shua's footsteps, Peter often put his foot in his mouth!

(2) Peter's Predicted Denial of Christ

(a) Y'shua tells them that this very night they will all be made to falter. After I am raised, you will see Me in Galilee.

1. It's a fulfillment of prophecy!

2. 'I will strike the Shepherd, And the sheep of the flock will be scattered.' (from Zach 13:7)
3. Peter assures Y'shua that even if everyone else compromises, he won't.
4. Y'shua assures Peter that he is very wrong—that this very night he will deny Him three times before the morning rooster crows.
5. Peter assures Y'shua that even if he must die, he would never deny Him and as always, all the disciples follow Peter—*"And so said all the disciples."*
 - a) Peter is always the one who has something to say.
 - b) Oftentimes he is the one putting his foot in mouth
 - c) Remember (Matthew 16:21-28)—Get behind me Satan: "Peter rebuked Y'shua for saying He would suffer and die at the hands of religious leaders!
 - d) We will soon see what happens!

(3) CLOSED GONE FISHING

- (a) Peter is the one who gets six other disciples to go back to fishing even after the resurrection!

Summary: BETRAYAL

2. Irreversible Decisions

A. The Prayer in the Garden

(1) Wake Up!

- (a) Y'shua has to make the most important decision of His life and His three closest friends can't even stay awake to support Him.

(2) The Prayer in the Garden

- (a) Y'shua arrives in the Garden of Gethsemane with His disciples, and He has them wait in one area while He goes ahead to pray in private.
 - 1. As He moved away from the group he brought His inner circle with Him, Peter, James, and John. He expressed to them His immense despair and anguish.
 - 2. He tells them that His sorrow is so intense that it's a matter of life and death and He asks them to stand with Him in prayer.
- (b) He moves on to a private place and prays what might be the most significant prayer of His life.
 - 1. *"O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will."*
- (c) He comes back to His inner circle and finds them sleeping. He address Peter in particular...

1. Why Peter?
 - a) It is likely because Peter is going to be the one who denies Him three times before the night is through. “...***nothing new under the sun.***”
- (d) Peter, why could you not stay awake for one hour at such a critical time?
 1. Wake up and pray or you will fall prey to your weakness.
 2. I am very aware of your claim earlier... “Even if I must die, I would never deny You!”
 3. And you are always the example for the rest of these disciples who claimed the same.
 4. But let me assure you that your spirit is willing to die, but your flesh is not! “...***nothing new under the sun.***”
- (e) Y’shua goes away privately a second time and prays again...
 1. “*O My Father, if this cup cannot pass away from Me unless I drink it, Your will be done.*”
- (f) He returns to the three and finds Peter, James and John asleep again.
 1. He leaves them, goes back to His private spot and prays the same prayer a third time—*[not as I will, but as You will.]*

2. When He finishes and returns to His sleeping disciples, He wakes them and tells them that it's time to meet the betrayer and for Him to be handed over to sinners.

(g) **Three times** Peter is sleeping; **three times** Peter will deny knowing Christ in Matthew 26:69-75; and **three times** Peter will be restored in John 21:15-19 to feed and shepherd God's people. And that is when he was told that he also will die for the cause much like Y'shua had just decided? Peter, follow Me! "...*there is **nothing new under the sun.***"

(3) The Law of the Hebrew Bondservant

(a) Each time we visit the passages in which Y'shua faces His final decision in the Garden, we are compelled to recognize the magnitude of the choice He is making! The finality of what is happening is rooted in the Law of the Hebrew Bondservant.

1. There comes a time when a Bondservant is permitted to go free, but there is a critical stipulation.

2. If he was given a bride while a servant, He cannot keep His bride when he is set free.

3. But if he loves his master (Father) and his bride (Church), he can choose to make a permanent decision and stay!
4. It's a one time forever decision and it requires a piercing as a permanent sign.
5. In the Garden of Gethsemane, Y'shua made that decision to stay and to be pierced on the cross, so He could keep His bride.
6. He became a Bondservant when He became a human (like us) and He will resurrect with a glorified body (like us), so we can be married to Him forever!
7. If He chose instead to go free, to not be pierced, He could have gone free (***back to His existence in the form of God**), but He would have lost His bride forever!
8. Do you now recognize the magnitude of the forever decision He made in the Garden?

B. Betrayal and Arrest in Gethsemane

- (1) Quintessential Meekness
 - (a) "Friend, why have you come?"
- (2) Betrayal and Arrest in Gethsemane
 - (a) At that very moment, Judas shows up with a throng of armed Jewish men sent by the religious leaders.

1. Judas had prearranged a signal that the one he greets with a kiss is the man they should arrest.
2. He approaches Y'shua and says, "Greetings, Rabbi!" and kisses Him.
3. Y'shua, at first, acts like He does not know why they are there and impetuous Peter (*Peter is named in John's Gospel) leaps to His defense and cuts off the ear of the high priest's servant (**Y'shua heals the servant's ear in Luke account).
 - a) Peter—put away your sword: your choice of weapon will be the same as your choice of death.
- (b) Then, in what might be the greatest act of meekness in the history of mankind, Y'shua tells Peter to put away his sword and He heals the man.
 1. Y'shua is well aware of the destiny of the meek:
"Blessed are the meek, for **they will inherit the earth.**"
- (c) This act of meekness goes beyond simply submitting to the moment, in order to display unconditional surrender to His Father's will, and to be a good example to those looking on. This was a necessary step in reclaiming the title deed to the earth—the meek will inherit the earth.

More on that in a moment—but let's first take a look at His level of meekness.

1. I could command thousands of angels to rescue Me in an instant with one prayer—but I won't because we are in the midst of fulfilling prophecy!
 - a) A legion was a unit of 3,000–6,000 men in the ancient Roman army—so, could Y'shua have been saying I have at My disposal 36-72,000 warring angels to dispatch in an instant to annihilate this small faction of silly Jews!
- (d) A lesson in title deeds!
 1. In order to gain back the title deed to the earth, this needs to happen. What better place than a garden, because a garden is where Satan first gained title to the earth when man fell.
 2. Satan is the ruler of this world!
 3. Satan possessed the title deed to the earth, as he clearly owned it to offer it to Y'shua. I own these things and I will give them to you, if...
 4. And we know that they will be restored to Y'shua...
- (e) Y'shua then exposes these religious leaders for their cowardice.

1. Why are you doing this in such a secret and aggressive manner when I openly and often sat with you in the temple and you did nothing?
 - a) We know that in Matthew 22 the religious leaders (Pharisees, Sadducees, Herodians, and Scribes) publicly interrogated Him in the temple for the final time and He left them speechless. At that point they would never again attempt to question Him openly, in fear of the masses recognizing their charade. That is why they needed a secret betrayal and trial in the middle of the night!
2. And again Y'shua acknowledges that this all must happen to fulfill prophecy.
 - a) [from Zach 13:7]: 'I will strike the Shepherd, And the sheep of the flock will be scattered.

Summary: TRIALS

3. Nothing new under the sun!

A. Y'shua Faces the Sanhedrin

(1) The Court of Pretense

(a) False Witnesses, False Accusations, Erroneous Verdict!

(2) Y'shua Faces the Sanhedrin

- (a) After His arrest, Y'shua is brought before Caiaphas, the high priest, and an assembly of religious leaders.
1. Peter sat outside in the courtyard to see what would transpire.
 2. Inside the kangaroo court the leaders were willing to say and do anything.
 3. As long as they could end with a death sentence, they would even welcome false testimony.
 4. False witnesses came forward, but none could actually give false testimony. This is the same thing they did later on to Stephen. Corrupt leaders will do anything to stay in power! "...***nothing new under the sun.***"
 5. And other than taking Y'shua's actual words and twisting them, they had nothing to say.
 6. They repeated their version of what they heard Him say a few days earlier in the temple. *"*I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days.*" What He did say was, *"*Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.*"
- a) *They will also mock Him with these words later as He is hanging on the cross. "...***nothing new under the sun.***"

7. The twisted words are good enough for the high priest. He asks Y'shua if He'd like to rebut the testimony and Y'shua says nothing.
8. The high priest then orders Y'shua to answer a question under oath, "Are the Christ, the Son of God?" "Yes!" Y'shua states emphatically, And soon all will see!
9. The high priest is so outraged that he tears his garments and screams, "Blasphemy! No further witnesses needed. Guilty as charged!"
10. The whole assembly of this illegal court agrees on a sentence of death. They spit at Him, beat Him, slap Him, and mock Him!
11. "Prophecy to us, Christ! Who is the one who struck You?"

B. Peter Denies Y'shua and Weeps Bitterly

- (1) Nothing new under the sun!
 - (a) Three denials as predicted!
- (2) Peter Denies Y'shua and Weeps Bitterly
 - (a) Peter is sitting outside waiting to see what has happened in the court and he is recognized.
 1. He is asked three times, by three different people, if He is one of Y'shua's followers, and all three times he

denies even knowing Y'shua, let alone being with Y'shua!

2. The third time they even recognize, by His accent, that he is a Galilean.
3. He is in such denial that he even curses and swears, "I do not know the Man!"
4. Then the rooster crowed, just as Y'shua predicted.
 - a) Peter's three denials may be related to the three times he did not keep watch in the Garden, (Matthew 26:36-46) and His threefold restoration (John 21:15-19).

C. Y'shua Handed Over to Pontius Pilate

- (1) Moved to a different jurisdiction...
 - (a) You do the dirty work!
- (2) Y'shua Handed Over to Pontius Pilate
 - (a) Now, to complete their cowardice behavior, these angry, jealous, dishonest, and hypocritical leaders with an agenda, handed Y'shua over into the Roman judicial system, under governor Pontius Pilate, for Him to be put to death.
 1. I want you to contemplate this for a moment!

2. The Roman legal system (which we will see in action with Paul throughout the book of Acts) is used for those who have broken Roman Law.
3. Other than local Roman leadership and their desire to “keep the peace” in regions in which they exercise political and military dominion, the Romans are only interested in their subjects NOT violating Roman law.
4. They could not care less about Jewish religious matters, other than if what is transpiring causes local unrest that could threaten Roman rule, by inspiring rebellion and insurrection against Rome.
5. Clearly, Y’shua is NO PRACTICAL THREAT at all to Rome, nor its dominion throughout Judea.
6. His only threat is to Jewish leadership and their hypocritical religious system!
7. So, why transfer this legal case from the Sanhedrin to the Roman courts? It is precisely because Jewish leadership is so corrupt and filled with hypocrisy that they do so.
8. These angry, jealous, dishonest, and hypocritical leaders have an agenda, and they cannot obtain their objective inside their system because THEY KNOW

Y'shua has done nothing deserving of capital punishment inside their system.

9. Again—contemplate this thought. If Y'shua claimed to be “the Christ, the Son of God” and He was wrong, then they would have a proper claim to execute Him for blasphemy inside their own system.

10. But time and again, they could not refute His claim, so even their verdict of blasphemy earlier was a bogus decision from a corrupt Sanhedrin.

11. Men in power will do anything to stay in power, even manipulate the courts! “...*there is **nothing new under the sun.***”

(3) Men in power will do anything to stay in power, even manipulate the courts!

(a) Paul oversaw a spontaneous Jewish court case in which Stephen was found guilty because of the testimony of false witnesses, and then he was executed.

(b) Stephen gives a perfect defense against the false claims. (READ Acts 6-7), but it did not matter because a decision was already made. (Sound familiar?) And who was there consenting to the whole charade? Paul!

1. Men in power will do anything to stay in power, even manipulate the courts! “...*there is **nothing new under the sun.***”
- (4) Don't think they had the authority to handle the case within their Jewish courts?
- (a) They certainly did. Just after they killed Stephen, Saul (Paul) solicited letters of approval to conduct abductions and trials with the right to do so against those who were “blasphemous” for believing Y'shua was the Messiah.
1. The reason the religious leaders cannot order Y'shua's execution in their court system is not because they have no ability to do so; it is because their false witnesses accused Him of nothing deserving of death. And even though His “blasphemous claim” to the high priest that He was “the Christ, the Son of God” would be enough for a death sentence, unfortunately for them, they could NOT PROVE HIS CLAIM WAS FALSE!
 2. So, all they could do was scream blasphemy and then quickly remove Him from their court system, so He could be accused in the Roman system of doing something deserving of death (which could only be that He was disturbing Rome's “peaceful rule.”

3. Men in power will do anything to stay in power, even manipulate the courts! “...*there is **nothing new under the sun.***”

D. Judas Hangs Himself

- (1) “I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.”
 - (a) Remorse: full of regret, regretful, sad, contrite, repentant, penitent, guilt-ridden!
- (2) Judas Hangs Himself
 - (a) Once Judas recognizes the fruit His actions, he regrets his choice and goes back to the the religious leaders to refund the thirty pieces of silver they paid him for the betrayal.
 1. It’s like a ***false witness** going back and saying, “I lied under oath I want to change my testimony.” “I lied, I recant, Y’shua is innocent and should not be executed!”
 2. Then we see another level of religious leadership corruption.
 3. “What is it to us? You gave your testimony and we don’t care if you lied. That’s on you!” Besides, we already knew you were lying, because we paid you for your testimony!

4. Judas throws down the silver he was paid in the temple and leaves and in his guilt and remorse he commits suicide.
5. I often wonder if His remorse could have redeemed him. (**Remorse:** full of regret, regretful, sad, contrite, **repentant**, penitent, guilt-ridden!) Had he committed the unforgivable sin? The scripture says...
 - a) Of which was Judas guilty? I leave that for you to contemplate for the moment!
6. The Gospel Account says the Judas committed suicide via hanging. But for clarity, this does not seem to be a hanging from a noose around the neck as traditionally viewed. The Book of Acts gives us clarifying information (*and Peter's use of the Psalms may also hint at Judas' eternal standing*).
7. Falling **headfirst** he burst open in the middle and all his intestines gushed out... it is more likely Judas hung himself of his own sword (to fall on one's own sword). That would explain his intestines gushing out.
 - a) [Strong's Greek 4248](#) *headlong, falling headlong, prone. leaning (falling) forward
 - b) As with many idioms, the phrase to fall on one's sword started out as a term with a literal meaning.

- c) To fall on one's sword often means to take responsibility for something that has gone wrong, in particular, to resign from one's position as a way to acknowledge responsibility for something that has gone wrong (Certainly this applies to Judas).
 - d) In Ancient Rome, it had **the literal meaning of committing suicide by using one's own sword.**
 - e) King Saul did it, so it was not unfamiliar to first-century Jews!
8. The chief priests know the money is dirty, so they can't add it back to the temple treasury.
 9. So, they continue in their corruption as one corrupt deed births and fuels the next.
 10. They have a subcommittee meeting and decide to use the blood money to purchase a potter's field, a public burial place to bury foreigners, indigent people, and criminals. A wonderful ministry to the community to disguise their wretchedness!
 11. The field they purchase will forever be known as the Field of Blood.
 - a) Does this not indicate that using ill-gained money, and reasoning that you can use it for ministry, is a bad idea?

12. Matthew then calls on the fulfillment of prophecy as the reason for the decision to buy a field. And, he names Jeremiah as the prophet speaking of the thirty pieces of silver and the potter's field.

- a) In reality and most accurately, Matthew is quoting from Zechariah 11:12-13
- b) What is the reason for such and is this a mistake? Well, the Scriptures are inerrant so it can't be a mistake. And scholars offer many varying explanations for such. But as I comb through them, the best is this in my opinion. (And think about how there were no chapters and verses inserted into the Jewish Bible at that time). Often writers quote specific texts and at other times they referenced ideas.
- c) And, at the time of the New Testament, Jeremiah was at the head of the Prophet's section of the Jewish Bible. And it was a common, at times, to cite ideas by using a reference to a scripture section by the book that headed that section.
- d) Even Y'shua used general citations at times, like when He cited the Law, the Prophets, and the

Psalms, using the first book to represent the whole section.

E. Y'shua Faces Pilate

(1) "Are You the King of the Jews?"

(a) Don't you hear what they are saying about you?

(2) Y'shua Faces Pilate

(a) Pilate asks Y'shua if He is the King of the Jews. He says, "Yes!"

1. Meanwhile, the religious leaders are standing in the background leveling charges against Him and Y'shua completely ignores them.

2. Pilate asks Him if He is paying attention to the onslaught of accusations.

3. Y'shua ignores Him as well and says NOTHING, and Pilate is astonished at Y'shua's approach.

Summary: EXECUTION

4. The First Half of the Most Significant Event in History

A. Take the Place of Barabbas

(1) Barabbas or Y'shua

(a) Their blind jealousy and hatred runs so deep that they would choose a notorious criminal over the Christ!

(2) Take the Place of Barabbas

- (a) As we have already learned, local Roman governance always aimed to keep peace among those whom they ruled over. As such, Pilate had a tradition of releasing a Jewish prisoner of the people's choice around the Passover.
1. In custody was a notorious prisoner name Barabbas whom Pilate offered to release, as an option, or he could release Y'shua.
 2. He figured he'd offer the greatest possible disparity between options imaginable.
 3. Barabbas was as bad as it gets and Pilate was certain Y'shua was only incarcerated because they were jealous of Him.
 4. He was a threat to disturb the "good thing they had going" in their religious program that was working well to keep the Jewish people under their heavy-handed religious system—to their personal benefit!
 5. At the same time, He figured Barabbas was so bad that there was no way they would choose him for release. Even with how much they disdained Y'shua, Barabbas was worse!
 6. Nevertheless, while Pilate was thinking about these things, his wife sent a message to him telling him that

she had a vision that He should not get involved in this Jewish persecution scam of a “just man”.

7. Even so, the religious leaders convinced the people to insist that Barabbas be released and to hold Y’shua. Pilate was shocked!
8. “What should I do with Him,” Pilate asks. “Crucify him!” they insisted. And even when he questioned, “Why, what evil has He done?” They just dug in their heels and demanded He be crucified!
9. Pilate realized he had to give them what they wanted in order to avoid the risk of an uprising (a tumult was rising), so he publicly washed his hands of the matter, “I am innocent of His blood. You take responsibility for His execution.”
10. They agreed to his terms: “His blood is on us and our children.”
11. Think about it... Pilate has such a weak character that He won’t intervene, even though His wife had a prophetic vision to stay far away from these corrupt proceedings. He capitulates to the Jews, while he simultaneously, in his own mind, washes his hands from any guilt for spilling innocent blood.

- a) Note: Luke inserts an interaction with Herod before the release of Barabbas. This is Herod Antipas son of Herod the Great.
12. Barabbas is released and Y'shua is scourged and delivered to be crucified. Luke and John add important details.
- a) John best shows the level of Jewish leadership corruption: **"If you release this man, you are no friend of Caesar! [manipulation]**
 - b) **Scourged:** a punishment inflicted after a sentence of death has been pronounced. A Roman scourging was an excruciating punishment. The victim was stripped of his clothes and bound to a post with his hand fastened above him (sometime on the ground). He would be whipped incessantly with a leather strap with chards of bone and lead inserts into its ends. While the Jews allowed 39 lashes, the Romans had no such limitations. Many died from this beating even prior to getting to the means of execution they were facing.

B. The Soldiers Mock Y'shua

- (1) Adding Insult to Injury
 - (a) The Crown of Thorns

(2) The Soldiers Mock Y'shua

- (a) Pilate's soldiers take Y'shua into the common hall where the whole garrison is gathered.
 1. They stripped His torn body and placed a scarlet robe on Him.
 2. Then they forced a braided wreath of thorns on His head, and placed a reed in His right hand like a king's scepter.
 3. They kneeled before Him and ridiculed Him, saluting Him as the King of the Jews.
 4. They spat on Him and struck Him on the head.
 5. Then they put His bloody garment back on Him and sent Him off to be crucified.

C. The King on the Cross

(1) The Crucifixion

- (a) THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS

(2) The King on the Cross

- (a) They had to find a man to help him carry His cross as He was so weakened from the beating. They brought him to the Place of a Skull:
 1. They tried to feed Him sour wine mixed with gall. He would not drink.

2. They crucified Him and cast lots for His garments fulfilling the prophecy of Psalm 22:18.
3. Then they sat and watched Him. And they placed the indictment that was used against Him over His head.
THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS.
4. He was crucified with two thieves next to Him—one on the right and one on the left. His interaction with the thieves is better explained by Luke.
 - a) *It never says which thief is on which side, however when we use Y'shua's warning of the coming judgement in Matthew 25:31-46, we see the sheep on the right (they are blessed) and the goats on the left (they are cursed), I'd predict the same about the thieves on His right and left.
 - b) "...***nothing new under the sun.***"
5. Those who passed by the cross mocked Him using His own words about destroying the temple and rebuilding it in three days! "*You who destroy the temple and build it in three days, save Yourself!*" This is the very same thing the false witnesses used to indict Him when they twisted His words.
 - a) "...***nothing new under the sun.***"

6. Then they used the convicting words that the High Priest asked about Him being the Son of God, to mock Him further. *“If You are the Son of God, come down from the cross.”*
 - a) *“...nothing new under the sun.”*
7. The religious leaders also ridiculed Him.
 - a) “How can you save others but can’t save Yourself.”
 - b) “If He is the King of Israel, let Him supernaturally get off that cross and we will believe His claims.”
 - c) He says He’s the Son of God—so God should save His Son!
8. Even the thieves agreed and mocked Him.

D. Y’shua Dies on the Cross

- (1) “Truly this was the Son of God!”
 - (a) He breathed His last breath...
- (2) Y’shua Dies on the Cross
 - (a) From noon until 3pm it became very dark.
 1. Just before 3pm Y’shua cried out, “Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?” that is, “My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?”
 2. “Eli” seems to be a shortened form of Elijah so they think He is calling on Elijah to save Him!” (Elijah means Yahweh is My God.)

3. One of the spectators tried to give Him a drink, but the others urged Him to leave Him alone to see if Elijah would come rescue Him.
4. No doubt they knew that Elijah must come before the Messiah (so maybe they were proving to themselves that He was NOT the Messiah).
 - a) That is because they missed John the Baptist as having come “in the spirit of Elijah”
5. John then fills in some other details...
6. At that moment, Y’shua died.
7. Immediately the curtain that separated the Holy Place from the Holy of Holies in the temple was torn from top to bottom. The veil was taken out of the way!
8. Then an earthquake caused rocks to crumble and graves to crack open.
9. The first mass resurrection took place from those open tombs after His resurrection. Then, those saints went into the city and appeared to many people as a witness.
10. The centurion guarding Y’shua, and others with him, believed He was the Son of God after all they had witnessed. John’s Gospel gives greater detail right before Joseph comes for the body!

E. Y'shua Buried in Joseph's Tomb

(1) A Rich Man's Tomb

- (a) Pilate commanded the body to be given to him.

(2) Y'shua Buried in Joseph's Tomb

- (a) Right before sundown (before Passover began) Joseph of Arimathea (a wealthy disciple) went to Pilate to ask permission to take down the body of Jesus.

1. Pilate gave him permission to do so and remanded the body into his care.

2. Joseph took the body, wrapped it in a burial garb, and placed it in his new tomb (a rich man's tomb), a cave carved from rock; and then they covered the entrance with large stone.

3. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary, sat at the tomb.

(3) But He is not going to stay there!

- (a) Our Holy One will not see corruption

F. Pilate Sets a Guard at the Tomb

(1) Secure the Tomb

- (a) Why? Because if the disciples fake this guy's resurrection, it will be worse than if we never killed Him in the first place. If this is the case, can you imagine how bad it will be when He actually resurrects!

1. Please see “Note of Special Interest” on page 28 to review the importance of the Day of Preparation.

(2) Pilate Sets a Guard at the Tomb

- (a) The next day, which was the first day of Unleavened Bread, the religious leaders met with Pilate.

1. They related their concern that there would be some attempt, by Y’shua’s disciples, to steal His body, a plot to deceive many into believing He rose from the grave three days later, just as He predicted He would.
2. They requested that the tomb be guarded, at least until three days and three nights were past, to prevent His disciples from pulling off the scandal, which would allow them to claim, ‘He has risen from the dead.’
3. The religious leaders predict that if Y’shua’s disciples were able to pull that off, the ramifications of that deception would be far worse than had they let Y’shua live and keep preaching that He was the Messiah.
4. Pilate granted their wishes.

G. Nothing new under the sun

- (1) *That which has been is what will be, That which is done is what will be done...*

- (a) Let's take advantage of this!
- (b) What will be remembered of you?
 - 1. "Assuredly, I say to you, wherever this gospel is preached in the whole world, **what you have done and will do** will also be told as a memorial of the good work you have done for Christ."
 - a) Like the woman of Matthew 26:13 who anointed Christ with her expensive oil!
 - b) Can you imagine Christians living like Christians should? Can you imagine imitating Him and walking in His footsteps? Can you imagine walking in the truth—walking just as He walked?
- (c) Walk in His Footsteps—Walk in Truth
- (d) Walk in His Footsteps—Imitate Him
- (e) Walk in His Footsteps—Walk in Faith
- (f) Walk in His Footsteps—Walk just as He walked
 - 1. You will be identified as being in Him by what your walk looks like. Walk like He walked...keep His word; let the love of God flow through you.
 - 2. And if you are ever off track, you will be reminded!
- (g) Walk in His Footsteps—This is the way, walk in it
 - 1. If you are ever out of step with God, you will be reminded!

QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

- 1. In Matthew 26:1-5, it says that the religious leaders plotted by trickery to capture Y'shua and have Him killed.**
 - A. Why did they need a secret plan? (Consider Matthew 22:46)
 - B. How did their scheme get accomplished? (See Matthew 26:14-16)

- 2. In Matthew 26:6-13, a woman uses a very expensive perfumed oil to pour over Y'shua's head.**
 - A. What is His disciples reaction and why?
 - B. What does Y'shua teach them and how can what He said about that woman apply to your life?

- 3. Y'shua's disciples go ahead of Him into Jerusalem to prepare for the Passover and at that preparation meal many important things are revealed...**
 - A. What do we learn about His coming betrayal? (See Matthew 26:20-25)
 - B. What do we learn about the New Covenant? (See: Matthew 26:26-30; John 6:35, 51)
 - C. Which cup of wine does He drink and which does He not drink and why? (See sermon notes pages 33-34 for help.)
 - D. What do we learn about Peter? (See Matthew 26:31-35)

E. What influence does Peter have on the other disciples? (See also John 20:30-31; 21:1-2)

4. From dinner Y'shua and His disciples go off to the Garden of Gethsemane in Matthew 26:36-46.

A. What prayer does Y'shua pray three times and how might His decision relate to *The Law of the Hebrew Bondservant* in Exodus 21:2-6? (See Philippians 2:5-8 and sermons notes pages 41-43 to help.)

B. What are His three closest disciples doing each time He comes back to check with them?

C. Which disciple does He address specifically?

D. How might this relate to what was predicted about that disciple earlier in Matthew 26:31-35 and what happens later with this same disciple in John 21:15-19?

5. Y'shua's betrayal becomes a reality in Matthew 26:47-56.

A. Why might this be considered the greatest act of meekness in human history?

B. Who is the impetuous disciple and what does Y'shua do for the man he injured? (See: John 18:10-11; Luke 22:50-51)

6. Matthew 5:5 says the meek will inherit the earth...

A. How might that relate to Y'shua's meek response in Matthew 26:47-56?

- B. Why must Y'shua inherit the earth in light of the following scriptures? (See: Matthew 4:8-9; John 12:30-31; 14:30-31; 16:11; 2 Corinthians 4:4; Ephesians 2:1-2; Revelation 11:15)

7. Under the cover of darkness, Y'shua stands trial in Matthew 26:57-68...

- A. What kind of witnesses are present and what is their testimony?
- B. What do those witness have in common with those who testified against Stephen in Acts 6:11-13?
- C. What does the high priest ask Y'shua and what is Y'shua's response that inspires an instant guilty verdict?
- D. How does Y'shua's conduct throughout His trial relate to Isaiah 53:7?

8. How does Y'shua's prediction about Peter at the Last Supper table in Matthew 26:31-35 become a reality in Matthew 26:69-75?

- A. What do you think motivated Peter's actions and how does that show up in your life?

9. From His bogus trial in the Sanhedrin, Y'shua is handed off to the Roman courts in Matthew 27:1-2; 27:11-14.

- A. Why did the the religious leaders desire to change jurisdictions?

- B. Did they have the capability of keeping Y'shua within their jurisdiction and still carry out their desired plan?
- C. Please see the sermons notes on pages 56-61 to help guide your answers.

10. Judas eventually comes to terms with his dreadful mistake in Matthew 27:3-10.

- A. What does he attempt to do?
- B. What is the outcome?
- C. Was Judas truly remorseful? (Use Acts 1:16-20; Psalms 69:25; 109:6-8; and 1 John 2:19 to guide your response.)
- D. Read the commentary about Acts 1:16-20 in the sermon notes on pages 65-66 and decide how you think Judas committed suicide.

11. What does it ultimately say about the religious leaders that they chose to save Barabbas over Y'shua in Matthew 27:15-26?

- A. Lukes narrative on the matter adds a few significant details in Luke 23:6-25. Please describe.
- B. And John best shows the level of Jewish leadership corruption in John 19:12-16. Please describe.

12. What did the soldiers do to mock Y'shua's kingship in Matthew 27:27-31?

- A. Contemplate on what you do in your life that might mock His kingship.

- B. List them and then declare what you will do today to change those things.

13. In Matthew 27:32-44 we see Y'shua on the cross. Connect the dots...

- A. What prophecy is being fulfilled (Find the Old Testament reference)?
- B. What do they label Him as that was used to indict Him in Matthew 27:11?
- C. What specific details are added in Luke 23:39-43 about the thieves on either side of Him?
- D. Which side would you place each thief considering Matthew 25:31-46?
- E. Those who passed by the cross mocked Him using the same words used by the false witness in Matthew 26:60-61. Please describe.
- F. They also used the same words that the High Priest used to convict Him in Matthew 26:63-64. Please describe.

14. Y'shua breathes His last breath in Matthew 27:45-56...

- A. Why do those watching think He is calling on Elijah? (See Malachi 4:5-6)
- B. What don't they realize that could have changed their wrong thinking? (See Luke 1:17)
- C. What important details does John add? (See John 19:25-37)

D. What happens that is later confirmed in II Corinthians 3:15-16 and I Corinthians 15:6; 15:20-24.

15. In Matthew 27:57-66, Y'shua is removed from the cross and placed in a rich man's tomb...

A. How is Isaiah 53:9 involved?

B. Why is Pilate asked to set a guard over the tomb for three days?

16. Bonus:

A. Write a short summary of all you learned in this study with this one verse guiding your narrative...Ecclesiastes 1:9