

INTRODUCTION

- * We have been Focusing on the Messiah in the book of Matthew for exactly one year (with the exception of breaks for missionaries and the mini-series on prayer in the spring). Eight weeks ago, we began to consider the final week of Jesus' earthly ministry; commonly referred to as the Passion Week. As we enter into this final phase of the book of Matthew – considering the sacrifice of the Messiah and His commission – we must remember that this is all happening very quickly for the disciples.
- * There is the Triumphal Entry, the Altercations with the Pharisees, Sadducees, and Scribes ... and then His statement that the Temple would be totally destroyed. The disciples are noticeably confused and Jesus provides some cryptic prophetic teaching regarding the time of His return.
- * Jesus culminates His teaching with the statement, ""You know that after two days is the Passover, and the Son of Man will be delivered up to be crucified."
- * If you were with Jesus, how would you have responded to this chain of events? ... and to this final statement?
- * In our passage today, we see a series of responses and reactions to Jesus' teaching. Which most closely resembles your response?

INSTRUCTION**I. THE PLOTTERS (v. 3-5)****A. Their A _____**

1. THE L _____ OF THE GATHERING
2. THE L _____ OF THE ATTENDEES

B. Their A _____

1. THE S _____ (cf. Prov 6:16-19; 12:5,20,22)
2. THE S _____

II. THE WOMAN (v. 6-13)**A. The V _____ of Her Gift (cf. Mark 14:5; John 12:5)****B. The V _____ of Her Gift**

1. THE E _____ OF MARY'S D _____ (cf. 1 John 4:19; Psalm 116)
2. THE P _____ OF MESSIAH'S D _____
 - a. His Burial
 - b. Her Memorial

III. THE BETRAYER (v. 14-16; Luke 22:1-6)**A. The P _____ (cf. John 13:21-30; 12:1-8; Luke 22:1-6)****B. The P _____ (cf. Zechariah 11:12-13; Exodus 21:3)****C. The P _____****INTROSPECTION**

- * HOW HAVE YOU RESPONDED TO GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION?
 - Are you rejecting Him? - Are you loving Him? - Are you betraying Him?
- * WHAT IS HE CALLING YOU TO SACRIFICE IN RESPONSE TO HIS SACRIFICE FOR YOU?
- * IS THERE A NEED TO CHANGE THE WAY YOU THINK ... AND THEREFORE ACT?

INTERACTION ... Thoughts & Questions to ponder for later discussion

It may be helpful to re-read the passage before the discussion.

- * In what ways can we actively reveal and demonstrate our devotion to Christ?
- * In what ways do we potentially "sell out" the Kingdom cause?