



PART 2: The Death of Jesus

WARM UP QUESTION: Have you ever been greatly impacted by the death of an individual (family member, friend, mentor, etc)? If so, please share.

READ: *Matthew 26:1-5,17-19 (ESV)*

FOCUS: In this passage, we see that Jesus' death is unlike any other.

OBSERVE:

- **(26:1-2) Jesus' death is unlike any other because it fulfilled the Passover.**
 - In Exodus, the Passover was the event when God sent an angel of death in judgment to kill all the firstborns in Egypt. The Israelites were commanded to kill a lamb and cover their doors with the blood of the lamb. The angel of death would pass over the houses that had the blood of the lamb on the doorposts.
 - Jesus identifies His death as being a fulfillment of the Passover. Jesus was the lamb whose sacrifice would spare His people from the judgment of God.
- **(26:1-2) Jesus' death is unlike any other because it was precisely predicted**
 - Vs 1-2 "Two days" Jesus predicted the time of His death.
 - Vs 1-2 "delivered up to be crucified" Jesus predicted the manner of His death. This manner was surprising because in Jesus' Jewish audience and context, any

violent death would be by stoning and not crucifixion since crucifixion was a Roman method of execution.

- In His death, Jesus was quoting Psalm 22, highlighting how that Psalm was a prophecy of His death..
- **(26:17-19) Jesus' death is unlike any other because it was unusually celebrated.**
 - Vs 18 "Keep" in Greek is the word "celebrate". Jesus was celebrating His impending violent death in the last supper.
 - Hebrews 12:2 shows us that the reason He celebrated was because of a certain "joy". The joy set before Him is that we can take His blood and paint it over the doors of our lives. Because of His death, we can be spared from the ultimate judgment of God- a judgement greater than the Passover.

REFLECT:

- What do the Passover and Jesus' death indicate about the seriousness of our sin?
- Have you ever felt that, because of your sin, God is or will judge you? What security can you now have knowing that Jesus was judged on your behalf through His death?

TAKE ACTION:

- Repent from specific sins and embrace the death of Jesus by trusting that His death will save You from His future judgment.
- Because God has so greatly forgiven you, forgive others.
- Tell others about Jesus and invite them to church.

PRAY: *Father, thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus, to die on the cross for my sins. While I deserve your just judgment, You have loved me and given me grace by providing a Way to be saved. Help me to never take Jesus' death for granted. Help me to continually believe in the gravity of my sin and the greatness of Your provision in Christ. In Jesus' Name, Amen.*

