**Matthew: The King and His Kingdom**

***Session 22: The Trial of Christ***

Chapter 26

***“Now when Jesus was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, a woman came up to him with an alabaster jar of very expensive ointment, and she poured it on his head, as he sat at table. But when the disciples saw it, they were indignant, saying, ‘Why this waste? For this ointment might have been sold for a large sum and given to the poor.’ But Jesus, aware of this, said to them, ‘Why do you trouble the woman? For she has done a beautiful thing to me. For you always have the poor with you but you will not always have me. In pouring the ointment on my body she has done it to prepare me for burial. Truly, I say to you, wherever this gospel is preached in the whole world, what she has done will be told in memory of her.”*** *(Matt 26:6-13)*

* This anointing is a traditional anointing for burial. It is a preparation for Jesus’ burial.

***“Then one of the twelve, who was Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, ‘What will you give me if I deliver him to you?’ And they paid him thirty pieces of silver. And from that moment he sought an opportunity to betray him.”*** *(Matt 26:14-16)*

* It was one of Jesus’ apostles who betrayed him.
* Judas betrayed Jesus for thirty pieces of silver. In Exodus 21:3, thirty pieces of silver is the price of a slave.
* Jesus knew that Judas was going to betray him, yet he persevered in his mission.
* He did not allow his emotion or hurt to prevent him from carrying out His mission to the end.

***“Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed, and broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said, ‘Take, eat; this is my body.’ And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, ‘Drink of it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you I shall not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.”*** *(Matt 26:26-29)*

* Jesus gives the words that the priests use to change bread and wine into the body and blood of Christ.
* For two thousand years the Church has believed that the priests who are ordained have the power in Christ’s words to change the bread and the wine into the body and blood of Jesus Christ.
* In persona Christi. The priest in the person of Christ.
* In the first century they did not bless things but only blest God.
* The bread of the Passover was unleavened bread. Jesus and the apostles were observing the Passover meal.
* The Eucharist in Mass is referred to as the “host”. The word “host” comes from the Greek word “hostia”.
* Hostia means victim. The priest raises the host (victim) in the consecration.
* In the Passover Seder meal, there were four cups of wine. The cup that Jesus identified as His blood of the covenant was the third cup of the Passover Seder meal.
* The third cup of the Seder meal was called the cup of blessing. Paul reveals this in 1 Corinthians 10:16.
* After the third cup Jesus and the apostles sing the great Hallel. The great Hallel is Psalms 113 and 114.
* Then then have the meal. After the meal they sing Psalms 115 thru 118.
* When Jesus had taken the cup and had given thanks, he gave the cup to the apostles saying, “This is my blood of the covenant.” This is what we call the Eucharist.
* The word Eucharist comes from the Greek word “Eucharistia” which means thanksgiving. In Hebrew there is the word “todah” which means thanks.
* In the Old Testament the “todah” was a thank offering. The todah offering was a meal offering.
* The “todah” offering was the only Old Testament sacrifice that involved unleavened bread with a meal in thanks for God’s deliverance from mortal threat.
* The rabbis believed and taught in the first century that in the coming messianic age all sacrifices will cease except for the “todah” offering. The Eucharist is a “todah” offering.
* Jesus said, “take, eat, this is my body.” He did not say, “take, eat, this represents my body.”
* This is the same language that is used in Exodus 24:3-8 when Moses ratified the covenant with sprinkling of blood.
* *“I tell you I shall not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.”*
* Jesus had the first three cups on the Passover meal.
* He has not had the fourth cup of the Passover meal, yet he proclaims that He will not drink the fruit of the vine until He drinks it new is His Father’s kingdom.
* The fourth cup of the Passover meal was the cup of consummation. The Passover meal has been interrupted.
* Jesus leaves the Passover meal and goes to the Garden of Gethsemane.

***“And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, ‘My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will but as thou wilt.’ “(****Matt 26:39)*

* Jesus is going through what Adam went through in the Garden of Eden.
* God had commanded Adam to guard and protect the Garden of Eden. Adam was created in the image and likeness of God.
* Adam had an intellect, he could reason. He had a will; he could act on what he knew to be good. He had the capacity to love.
* In 1 Corinthians 15:45, Paul makes a distinction between the first Adam and the second Adam.
* Jesus was both human and divine. Jesus had a human will and a divine will.

*“Similarly, at the sixth ecumenical council, Constantinople III in 681, the Church confessed that Christ possesses two wills and two natural operations, divine and human. They are not opposed to each other, but cooperate in such a way that the Word made flesh willed humanly to his Father all that he had decided divinely with the Father and the Holy Spirit for our salvation. Christ’s human will ‘does not resist or oppose but rather submits to his divine and almighty will.’ “(CCC 475)*

* Jesus made right what Adam made wrong.
* Judas comes into the Garden of Gethsemane just at the serpent came into the Garden of Eden.
* Jesus surrenders to God’s will and does everything that Adam failed to do. ***“My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it thy will be done.”*** *(Matt 26:42)*

***“But Jesus was silent. And the high priest said to him, ‘I adjure you by the living God, tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God.’ Jesus said to him, ‘You have said so. But I tell you, hereafter you will see the Son of man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.’ “(****Matt 26:63-64)*

* The high priest puts Jesus under oath by the living God to answer if He is the Christ.
* Jesus quotes from Daniel 7:9-13. He identifies Himself as the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven and seated at the right hand of the Father.
* Every other time that Jesus was asked if He was the Messiah, He answered with evasive methods, rabbinic teaching, and hinting at Scripture.
* In being put under an oath Jesus identifies Himself as the divine Messiah of Daniel 7.
* Jesus is charged with blasphemy. The Romans reserved the right to carry out capital punishment.
* The leadership will have to convince Rome that Jesus’ offence merited capital punishment.
* Jesus takes upon Himself the charge of rebellion.