A Study of Mark 14

I. Outline. From Headings in NJKV
2. Mary Anoints Jesus (Mark 14.3-9; cf., Matthew 26.6-13; John 12.2-8).

II. Summary.
For months the religious leaders of the Jews had been plotting how to get rid of Jesus. That plotting is mentioned in the first two verses of this chapter. Their desires are soon to materialize in the form of a cruel and unjust crucifixion. The beautiful story of love and devotion concerning Mary (sister of Lazarus and Martha) is recorded in this chapter. Jesus says that wherever the gospel is preached what Mary did on that occasion will also be told. Then there is the sad story of the betrayer, Judas. Jesus observes the Passover with the apostles, institutes the Lord’s Supper, tells Peter plainly that he will deny his Lord, and prays, in Gethsemane that amazing prayer of His yielding to the Father’s will. Sure enough, Judas leads the Roman soldiers to arrest Jesus as he kisses the Lord. The famous Judas Kiss. Then, Jesus is illegally tried and the denial by Peter happens just as Jesus indicated it would.

“Author and business leader Fred Smith writes: ‘One of my treasured memories comes from a doughnut shop in Grand Saline, Texas. A young farm couple was sitting at the table next to mine. He was wearing overalls and she a gingham dress. After finishing their doughnuts, he got up to pay the bill, and I noticed she did not get up to follow him. But then he came back and stood in front of her. She put her arms around his neck, and he lifted her up, revealing that she was wearing a full-body brace. He lifted her out of her chair and backed out the front door to the pick-up truck, with her hanging from his neck. As he gently put her into the truck, everyone in the shop watched. No one said anything until a waitress remarked, almost reverently “He took his vows seriously.”’ For better and for worse, this man was going to honor his commitment, no matter how burdensome or inconvenient. He did what he did because a core principle operated in his life: the principle of love. There are many such stories of people making great sacrifices because of their love for others. In Mark 14 we see the incredible love that Jesus has for us. Jesus was about to enter the most agonizing time of His ministry. He would be betrayed into the hands of His enemies by one of His own disciples; be forsaken by all of His other disciples; agonize at the thought of being separated from His own Father in bearing the sins of all mankind; be rejected and denied by one of His closest friends; and face the cruel injustice of His enemies. Why? Love. As hard as it is to understand or comprehend, Jesus ‘so loved the world’ that He was committed to giving up His life for us. As you read Mark 14, see the power of committed love” [Cooper, Rodney L. (2000-06-15). Holman New Testament Commentary - Mark: 2 (Kindle Locations 5442-5443). B&H Publishing. Kindle Edition].
III. Chronology.

**BIBLE PERIOD:** The Period of the Christ.

*If you are not familiar with the 15 Bible Periods, please click here:*
https://maplehillchurchofchrist.files.wordpress.com/2018/05/15bibleperiods.pdf

IV. Words/Phrases to Study

- **14.1... AFTER TWO DAYS WAS THE FEAST OF THE PASSOVER**—“the Passover. I.e., Friday of Passover, which would have begun on Thursday at sunset. The Passover commemorated the ‘passing over’ of the homes of the Israelites by the angel of death, who killed the firstborn of Egypt (Ex. 12: 1–13: 16). The Passover began on the fourteenth day of Nisan (the first month of the Jewish calendar) with the slaughtering of the Passover lamb, and continued into the early hours of the fifteenth [MacArthur, John (2005-05-10). The MacArthur Bible Commentary (Kindle Locations 41459-41462). Thomas Nelson. Kindle Edition].


- **14.3... AN ALABASTER BOX OF OINTMENT OF SPIKENARD VERY PRECIOUS**—“Details concerning the perfume—it being contained in an alabaster flask, consisting of unadulterated nard, and costing a lot—enhance the honor paid to Jesus and give apparent justification to the criticism that this woman wasted the perfume when it might have been sold for a high price and the proceeds given to the poor. Pouring out the perfume exceeds smearing on a bit of it; and the woman’s breaking the flask punctuates the unexpected lavishness of the outpouring, makes the flask unusable in the future, and therefore dramatizes the completeness of the outpouring. Not a drop is held back. This seeming excess of honor counteracts the shame of Jesus’ coming crucifixion. Mark doesn’t say who groveled at the woman after becoming indignant, for he wants to focus next on Jesus’ reaction and interpretation of her act” [Robert Gundry].

- **14.4... HAD INDIGNATION WITHIN THEMSELVES**—“John 12.4-5 says that Judas was the instigator, and Matthew 26.8 indicates that all the disciples, following Judas’ lead, were angry with Mary’s waste of a valuable commodity” [John MacArthur].

- **14.4... THREE HUNDRED PENCE**—A pence, DENARIUS was about a day’s wage for a common worker. So, 300 would be about a year’s wages. Quite a lot of money!

- **14.8... SHE HATH DONE WHAT SHE COULD: SHE IS COME AFOREHAND TO ANOINT MY BODY TO THE BURYING**—“What she had in her heart, and in the power of her hands to do; she hath done according to her ability, and her good will; and if she had not done it now, she could not have

14.11… **AND HE SOUGHT HOW HE MIGHT CONVENIENTLY BETRAY HIM**—“...after this promise, and upon this agreement: henceforward he sought the most fitting opportunity, and the best season of betraying his master into the hands of these men, when he was alone, and the multitude absent, and there was no danger of a tumult, or a rescue [Gill, John (2012-01-29). Gill’s Bible Commentary (Kindle Locations 260682-260683). OSNOVA. Kindle Edition].

14.14... **THE GOODMAN OF THE HOUSE ... GUESTCHAMBER**—“The present tense of ‘tells’ emphasizes Jesus’ predicting that the disciples will be ‘tripped up.’ To be tripped up is to stumble into sinning because of some baneful influence. The Old Testament quotation defines the sinning that Jesus predicts his disciples will stumble into. It’ll consist in allowing fear to scatter them when he’s arrested. To save their necks they’ll leave him in the lurch. It seems unlikely that those closest to Jesus will forsake him. But Scripture must be fulfilled (the scattering will happen ‘because it’s written’), so that the passion and its effect on the disciples will happen according to God’s plan as well as according to Jesus’ prediction. It seems even more unlikely that ‘all’ these disciples will forsake him. But the fulfillment of this element in his prediction (an element that he adds to the Old Testament prediction) will enhance the impressiveness of his predictive ability” [Gundry, Robert H. (2011-11-01). Commentary on Mark (Commentary on the New Testament Book #2) (Kindle Locations 3813-3820). Baker Publishing Group. Kindle Edition].

**GUESTCHAMBER**—“The word is translated ‘inn’ in Luke 2.7. It typically referred to a place where a traveler could spend the night—a place of lodging or a guest room in someone’s home, as was the case here (cf., Matthew 26.18)” [John MacArthur].

14.20… **IT IS ONE OF THE TWELVE, THAT DIPPETH WITH ME IN THE DISH**—“There were likely several dishes around the table. Judas was probably one of several sitting near Jesus and, thus, would have dipped in the same bowl with Him” [John MacArthur].

14.31... **BUT HE SPAKE THE MORE VEHEMENTLY**—“With a louder voice; with more spirit and eagerness; in a more peremptory and self-confident way” [Gill].

14.33... **AND BEGAN TO BE SORRY AMAZED, AND TO BE VERY HEAVY**—“Jesus’ anguish has nothing to do with fear of men or the physical torments of the Cross. He is sorrowful because within hours, the full cup of divine fury against sin would be His to drink. ... A cup often symbolizes divine wrath against sin in the OT (Isaiah 51.17, 22; Jeremiah 25.15-17, 27-29; Lamentations 4.21-22; Ezekiel 23.31-34; Habakkuk 2.16). The next day, Christ will **bear the sins of many** (Hebrews 9.28), and the fullness of divine wrath will fall on Him (Isaiah 53.10-11; 2 Corinthians 5.21). This is the price of the sin He bore, and He paid it in full. His cry of anguish in 27.46 reflects the extreme bitterness of the cup of wrath” [John MacArthur commenting on Matthew 26.38-39].

14.34... **TARRY YE HERE AND WATCH**—“Jesus’ taking along His three closest disciples shows Him to be seeking their help and thus builds up to the initial breakdown of even THEIR loyalty. They’ll not stay awake. Ultimately, they’ll abandon Him altogether by fleeing with the rest (14.50). ... in 14.41 He discovers for the third time that they’re sleeping rather than staying awake, He tells them to sleep on. Why? Because it won’t be long before the betrayer arrives; so they might as well get as much rest as they can. Jesus had wanted the three to stay awake watching for Judas’s coming in order that He (Jesus) might give Himself entirely to praying through His emotional distress” [Robert Gundry].

14.36... **ABBA ... TAKE AWAY THIS CUP FROM ME**—“Abba. An endearing, intimate Aramaic term that is essentially equivalent to the English word **Daddy** (cf., Romans 8.15; Galatians 4.6)” [John MacArthur].

“‘The Jews did not use this word in addressing God because they felt it was disrespectful. But Jesus as the unique Son of God was on the most intimate terms with His Father. Jesus knew that His Father could do anything, and he asked that he **take this cup from me**” [Cooper, Rodney L. (2000-06-15). Holman New Testament Commentary - Mark: 2 (Kindle Location 5602). B&H Publishing. Kindle Edition].

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• 14.51... **AND THERE FOLLOWED HIM A CERTAIN YOUNG MAN, HAVING A LINEN CLOTH CAST ABOUT HIS NAKE BODY**—“Perhaps this was Mark Himself. If the mob under Judas’s guidance had first gone to Mark’s mother’s house in search of Jesus—possibly where the last Passover was observed by Jesus and the Twelve—Mark could have heard the noise, suspected what was happening, and hurried to follow the multitude” [John MacArthur].

• 14.56... **MANY BARE FALSE WITNESS AGAINST HIM, BUT THEIR WITNESS AGREED NOT TOGETHER**—“Because Jesus was innocent, the Jewish leaders could not convict Him except by relying on perjured testimony and perverted justice. The Jewish leaders were intent on doing whatever was necessary even if they had to violate every biblical and rabbinical rule” [John MacArthur].

• 14.62... **YE SHALL SEE THE SON OF MAN SITTING ON THE RIGHT HAND OF POWER, AND COMING IN THE CLOUDS OF HEAVEN**—“This expression would remind these rulers of the expression of Daniel, where ‘there came with the clouds of heaven one like unto a son of man.’ But their intentions were so determined on putting the accused to death that meekness, innocence, and scripture all pass for nothing” [C.E.W. Dorris, *A Commentary on the Gospel According to Mark*, Gospel Advocate, 1973, p. 350]

• 14.72... **AND WHEN HE THOUGHT THEREON, HE WEEP**—“Peter then “remembered” that Jesus had predicted his denial. This broke him, and he, overwhelmed by this betrayal and cowardice, “began to weep.” At the very moment he was voicing his third denial, Jesus “turned and looked at Peter” (Luke 22: 61). Sinclair Ferguson says, “That look was to be his salvation, for he saw in those eyes not condemnation but compassion. That was the turning point in his life. ... Now, in this most painful and memorable of ways, Peter saw himself as he really was, repented, and was remade into the great apostle’ (Mark, 252). Peter would repent, turn to Christ for forgiveness, and receive a full pardon. By contrast Judas would only feel regret, run to the religious leaders to try to make amends, and go out and hang himself (Matthew 27.5). If only he had turned again to the Lord Jesus like Peter. Though his sin was great, he would have discovered that God’s grace was even greater” [Akin, Daniel L. (2014-06-01). Exalting Jesus in Mark (Christ-Centered Exposition Commentary) (p. 342). B&H Publishing Group. Kindle Edition].

V. Lessons & Applications.

• **MAKE YOUR KINDNESS WORTH REMEMBERING** (Mark 14.3-9). **LESSONS LEARNED:** “(1) Mary desired to do something for Jesus right then, so she translated that desire into reality. And she did something wonderfully worthwhile for Him. (2) She did her act of kindness in the face of unjustified, harsh, criticism. (3) Although what she did was costly, nothing was too good to exhibit her feelings for the Lord. What is done for Jesus is neither wasteful nor extravagant. (4) Devoted Mary should be a precious pattern for each of us in doing all we can for Jesus. Even then we will do so little for Him who has done so much for us. (5) Deeds done before someone’s death are much more meaningful than flowers delivered at a funeral setting. Let us honor parents, relatives, friends, gospel preachers, elders, deacons, Bible teachers, and all fellow Christians while they are living.” [Robert R. Taylor, Jr., *Companion Annual Lesson Commentary*, 1993-1994, p. 239].

   “(1) We learn that we should love our blessed Lord (and our fellowman as well. (2) We can learn the wonderful lesson that one should show his love by his deeds. (3) We can learn the great lesson that we should SHOW our love both with LIBERALITY and CHEERFULNESS (cf., 2 Corinthians 8.1-3). (4) We can learn the great lesson that the unselfish love of others should lead us to repent of our own selfishness. (5) We should be alert to opportunities to do all the good we can. (6) One can learn the lesson that even if he cannot do the greatest thing, he can DO WHAT HE CAN. (7) One can learn the lesson that he should not be surprised when the good deeds are criticized even by those whom one would normally expect to praise them. (8) One can learn the lesson that he should not be surprised when even good men are led astray to believe evil reports against him (cf., Judas). (9) One can learn the lesson that he can
be sure—even though men may misunderstand—that our Lord knows our motives and rewards our services” [Thomas B. Warren, Teacher’s Annual Lesson Commentary, 1973, pp. 129-130].

- **THE BLOOD OF CHRIST** (Mark 14.24). **LESSONS LEARNED:** “(1) The New Covenant is important because it has been sealed with the blood of Christ. (2) We are not our own because we have been redeemed, or bought, by Christ’s blood. (3) We honor God when we respect the blood of the covenant; we dishonor God when we count the blood of His Son common. (4) People who have been faithful unto death need not fear the judgment because they will stand among the blood-washed throng around the throne of God” [H. Leo Boles (originally appeared in 1945), Companion Annual Lesson Commentary, 1996-1997, pp., 223-224].

**POINTS FOR THE TEACHER TO EMPHASIZE:** “(1) The cross of Christ has become the most important fact in the history of mankind due to the influence of Christ and His teachings upon the whole of the human race. (2) The Roman cross which brutalized and de-humanized man became the means of bringing the grace of God through which salvation was provided for man. (3) There are many good people in the world doing good things; but the best people in the world doing the best things are Christians because their acts honor God. (4) The Lord’s supper brings Christians together upon the first day of the week. (5) Christ is the Christian’s Passover, and the Lord’s supper is a memorial supper to remind us that Christ died as a sacrifice in our stead. (6) The church that Christ built and which He purchased with His own blood should wear only His name and members of His body should be called Christians only. (7) Elders are the overseers and shepherds of the church. (8) Blood is the life of the flesh and life is God’s most precious gift to man. Jesus shed His blood and gave His life that we might live eternally with God” [Thomas B. Warren, Teacher’s Annual Lesson Commentary, 1974, p. 118].

- **THE KINGDOM OF GOD versus THE COMMUNITY CHURCH MOVEMENT** (Mark 14.25). “Can we learn from Community Churches? Yes, we should learn these important lessons: (1) There is no substitute for the Gospel, the power of God unto salvation (Mark 16.15; Romans 116; 2 Thessalonians 1.7-10. (2) Man has no right to add to or take away from God’s Word to please himself or others (Deuteronomy 4.2; Revelation 22.18-19). (3) If men are not converted by obeying the Word of God, they are not converted (Luke 6.46; John 12.40; Acts 28.27; Revelation 22.14; John 8.32-32; 15.14). (4) Christians, in order properly to teach men Truth, do not need to take lessons from those who teach error, helping men to be lost and joined to a division of denominationalism. (5) The Lord is the Head of the church, not man, and to Him has been given all authority (Colossians 1.18; Matthew 28.18) (6) God has specified how the church is to be organized and function (1 Timothy 3: Titus 1; Philippians 1.1; et.al.). (7) Likewise, He commands what is authorized—thus, acceptable—in Christian worship (John 4.23-24). (8) The Lord’s church grows when men follow His way. We must remember our responsibility is to ‘sow’ and ‘water’ (1 Corinthians 3.6-7). God will give the increase” [Bobby Liddell, in Studies in Mark, 21st Annual Denton Lectures, Valid Publications, 2002, pp., 570-571].

- **JESUS INSTITUTES THE LORD’S SUPPER** (Mark 14.22-25; 1 Corinthians 11.23-29). **Topics of Discussion** “(1) When Jesus said the bread is His body and the cup is His blood, the statement is no more to be taken literally than is Paul’s statement, ‘Now this Hagar is mount Sinai.’ (2) On what do your thoughts dwell while the emblems are being passed? This is a time of serious meditation—not a time for visiting with the one sitting by, or for planning how to spend the afternoon. (3) Failure to observe the Lord’s Supper properly is the cause of spiritual illness and death. We should, therefore, give this part of the worship much prayerful thought” [Roy H. Lanier, Sr., Teacher’s Annual Lesson Commentary, 1952, p. 207].

- **PETER DENIES THE LORD** (Mark 14.27-31, 66-72). **Lessons to Learn** “(1) We should be slow to say what we will or will not do under circumstances unfamiliar to us. Such statements betray too much confidence, a lack of wisdom, and a lack of trust in God. (2) We should keep ourselves fortified by good company. We never get too old, or too wise, or too strong to need the strength and encouragement which come from the company of good people And we never get to
the point in life where we cannot profit by fellowship and association with good people. (3) We should rejoice in the fact that the Lord forgave Peter. If the Lord had been unwilling to forgive Peter, we would have no hope of enjoying His forgiveness ourselves. While none of us may be in the same situation in which Peter found himself, yet all of us have our moments of weakness when we forget the Lord when we sin against Him, and need the forgiveness as much as Peter needed it. Our hope of eternal life depends upon the willingness of the Lord to forgive us over and over again” [Roy H. Lanier, Sr., Teacher’s Annual Lesson Commentary, 1956, pp., 280-281].

**HIS SOUL SORROWFUL EVEN UNTO DEATH** (Mark 14.32-42). “As He was more than human, He felt all this with more than human sensibility, while the temptation came upon Him in all the weakness of humanity. Into this one hour were crowded all the horrors, cruelty, shame, and death of the cross. The wickedness and treachery of Judas, the desertion of the eleven, the hypocrisy and crime of the Jewish leaders, the rejection by the race of their only Saviour, together with the sins of the whole world, were all upon Him and overwhelmed Him with sorrow. ‘Who his own self bare our sins in His body upon the tree’ (1 Peter 2.24). He was tried, and He died as a criminal between thieves. He suffered, ‘the righteous for the unrighteous, that He might bring us to God’ (1 Peter 3.18). Not simply from the physical suffering of death did He shrink, but His divine nature felt more keenly than mortals can know the horror and awfulness of sin and the calumny of His trial and crucifixion. He was despised and rejected by men, was bruised and put to grief for the sins of others” [E.A. Elam, Elam’s Notes on Bible School Lessons, 1925, p. 60].

VI. **Questions.**

**True or False**

01. _____ The Bible says that the ointment used in this chapter was wasted.

02. _____ Jesus pronounced no WOES in this chapter.

03. _____ The word VEHEMENTLY is used to describe the way Peter claimed he would not deny Jesus.

04. _____ Jesus was betrayed with a kiss.

05. _____ Peter remembered what Jesus had said to him after he had denied Him.

**I Found it in Verse(s)**

06. _____ Some began to spit on Jesus.

07. _____ A young man fleeing the garden naked.

08. _____ Four groups of people who came to the garden with Judas.

09. _____ What Jesus and the disciples did before going to the Mount of Olives.

10. _____ The religious leaders were seeking how they might take Jesus by craft.

**Short Answer**

11. The kind of room where Jesus would eat the Passover with His disciples was:

12. WHEN did Jesus say that He would go before the disciples into Galilee?
13. WHERE in the garden was Jesus when He prayed to the Father that if it were possible, the hour might pass from Him?

14. HOW did Peter follow Jesus after He had been arrested?

15. How effective were those who were “witnesses” against Jesus?

Each Question is worth 7 Points

My Score is: ______

Answers will be found on next week’s handout

ANSWERS to Mark 13 Questions... 01—True (31); 02—True (6); 03—True (14); 04—False (17); 05—False (30); 06—33; 07—8; 08—15; 09—22; 10—25; 11—Watch (37); 12—There shall not be left one stone upon another (2); 13—The abomination of desolation (14); 14—Child (17); 15—nigh, doors (29).
VII. Seek-A-Word Puzzle. The words may be backwards, diagonal, upside down, etc. See if you can find them all. The more you use the words of the Bible, the greater blessed you will be! You might be surprised at how much this little exercise will help you retain important truths. THANK YOU for the good effort you are putting forth in Bible study. –DRL

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VIII. Crossword Puzzle.

Mark 14 (KJV)

ACROSS
01) The second ____ the cock crew, Peter wept.
02) Chief priests and ____ sought how they might take Jesus by craft.
06) Some had ____ when Jesus was anointed.
07) Peter, James, and John had this kind of eyes.
10) This ointment was very precious.
11) Man disciples were to follow was bearing a pitcher of it.
12) When Jesus spoke of a betrayer, the disciples were...

DOWN
01) Jesus told Peter: “Thou shalt deny me ____.”
03) Judas sought how he might ____ betray Jesus.
04) With Judas came a multitude carrying swords and ____.
05) This passage speaks of the first day of ____ bread.
08) Judas said: “Master, Master, and ____ Him.
09) Telling about the ointment would be a ____.
10) They came out with ____ and staves to take Jesus.
IX. EXTRA CREDIT FOR “SUPER” Bible Students...

Will you please consider answering these three SIMPLE questions based on the Bible text of this chapter? I will try to make use of your answers. Bring them with you next week. Tear out this last sheet from the Study Guide and be prepared to put it in a basket. I think it will be a great help to all of those in the class if you will do so. Thank you in advance for your marvelous cooperation!

W O R D: What word would you like to know more about in this chapter?

W O N D E R: I wonder what this phrase, verse, or series of verses means...

W I S H: I wish myself—or others whom I know or even don’t know—would understand this fact, principle, or concept from this chapter...