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| 1  Mark 14:1-31  “Oh Priceless Redemption!”  11/12/23  INTRO:  What if you had one son and God commanded you to sacrifice one and only Son?  4000 years ago God told Abraham to sacrifice Isaac  As they went up Mt. Moriah Gen. 22  Isaac: *“Father, the wood and fire are here, but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?”*  Abraham: *“The Lord will provide it son”*  Sure enough, God provided  Just as God provided for Abraham, so 2000 years later God provided another lamb | 2  a perfect, spotless, precious lamb that took your place as sacrifice to God  MAIN POINT:  Mark will show you 4 characters and their different responses to Jesus’ imminent death to help you respond rightly to His priceless redemption.  “Oh Priceless Redemption” that is title of sermon  REVIEW:  Last week we saw that eschatology = obedience/faithfulness to Christ.  Close to landing plane in Mark  -3 more chapters 14, 15, 16  From here on out = Jesus’ passion week = suffering  BODY:  14:1-31 = two Markan sandwiches back to back |
| 3  Reminder: Markan sandwich = literary device sandwich two stories together = contrast or similarity  1st sandwich = 14:1-11  2nd sandwich = 14:12-31  14:1  Passover and Unleavened Bread two days away  Still Wednesday and Jesus will be crucified Friday  Final scheming of religious leaders for Jesus’ death  Jesus has been in conflict with them all throughout Mark  -He has show undeniably that He is the Son of God  -Yet, they refuse to believe  -Gave them chance after chance to repent, but no  They cannot lose their influential positions of power  -They love their fame  -They love their wealth  -They love their power  -They love their religiosity | 4  Jesus pronounces woes on them, he pronounces destruction and judgment on temple and whole religious system. No redemption for them  But chief priests want to seize him “stealthily or secretly or slyly”  because estimated 2.5 million Jews celebrating Passover in Jerusalem  Many regarded Jesus highly and because of energy of crowd, possibly riot, and the Romans could come in  So description of chief priests and scribes’ motive is interrupted by feast in the home of Simon the Leper in v. 3  Presumably Simon the leper healed by Jesus  -because no one was near lepers for disease  -regardless, Jesus is dining with a social outcast  They are eating food and reclining at table |
| 5  Reclining was culture of that day  -1 ft above ground table  -left elbow support you  -right hand use to eat food  Prolonged conversation and fellowship  -Much more intimate setting of fellowship and  getting to know one another than fast food culture  of today  But interrupting fellowship a woman approaches Jesus  -John identifies = Mary, sister of Martha and  Lazarus  Once again Luke 10:42 = chosen the better part  She interrupts conversation and pours oil over Jesus’ head  Nard = expensive aromatic oil from plant in India  -pure distilled Nard  Not clear heirloom or worked for it | 6  Women didn’t work  Very expensive = 300 denarri = one year’s wages  Alabastar jar = long thin neck to pour little drops at a time  Precious commodity, but she broke it to pour it all on Jesus  Entire year’s value gone in a single act of devotion  John 12 = Not only head but His feet with her hair!  Act of total submission and humility  V. 4 = Instead of awe = anger  *“Why has this perfume been wasted, for this perfume might have been sold for over three hundred denarii and given to the poor.”*  Scolding her = vehement = lit. nostrils were flaring at her in anger |
| 7  John’s account tells us it was Judas who incited this but Mark portrays entire group as reacting negatively  Indeed Matthew clarifies that it was disciples!  Matt. 26:8  *“But when the disciples saw this, they were indignant, saying, “Why this waste?”*  John 12:6  Judas said this not because he was concerned for the poor but because he was a thief, and he embezzled money from the money box  Jesus responds positively VV. 6-9 (read)  She has done a “beautiful” thing to me  V. 7 Jesus is not being indifferent but reordering their priorities for worship  -helping the poor is a good thing, but not the most  important thing  Must focus on Jesus while on earth | 8  She also knew Jesus would not get a proper honorable burial for death  -He would die as a criminal  V. 8 “she anointed His body beforehand for the burial” = understood that Jesus was Passover Lamb that was going to be slain for sinners  Going to die for pay the ransom for sinners  His death = life for sinners  Display of love for Christ so commendable that = v. 9 wherever gospel is proclaimed, she will be remembered as example of how to respond to Christ  Middle part of sandwich ends and we continue the treachery of chief priests but in the form of Judas who is their tool  VV. 10-11 (read)  Judas Iscariot = treasurer of the group goes out to betray Jesus |
| 9  One so intimately acquainted with Jesus  Saw His miracles  Listened to His teaching  Literally stood by God incarnate  Yet motivated by greed  Probably recognizing group will be scattered in Jesus’ death he decides to cash out quick  Goes to chief priests to hand over Jesus for 30 pieces of silver = Ex. 21:32 = price of a slave  At least if he valued Jesus somewhat, He would have asked a high price for Him, but no…Jesus was nothing more to him than the value of a slave  Which is ironic because a slave was precisely what Jesus would humble Himself to accomplish redemption | 10  Judas exchanged his soul for 30 pieces of silver  He gave up his entire salvation for the passing pleasures of this world  He gained the whole world, but lost his soul  TRANSITION:  One meal end with both loyalty and treachery to Christ. We get another meal with another display of loyalty and treachery in verses 12-31  BODY:  We come to another Markan sandwich  Lord’s Supper sandwiched in between two prophecies about His betrayal  V. 12 *“First day of Unleavened Bread when the Passover Lamb was being sacrificed”*  Next day Thursday |
| 11  Disciples ask Jesus where they will eat the Passover  Jesus sends out two of His disciples to find the man carrying a pitcher of water  Like the two he sent out for his triumphal entry, he send out two to prepare for his triumphal feast  Two disciples were to = *“where is My guest room in which I may eat the Passover with My disciples?”*  Whether Jesus planned ahead to reserve room or foreordained it beforehand to happen, Jesus is in complete control  It will happen exactly according to how he sees it  V. 17 They are reclining again and eating but…  V. 18 Jesus drops a bombshell of a statement  *“Truly I say to you that one of you will betray Me-the one who is eating with Me.”* | 12  Just imagine that  Biggest festival celebration, commemorating Israel’s deliverance from bondage to slavery in Egypt  Joyous occasion, even bigger than our Christmas  “One of you will betray Me.”  Stomach of disciples probably = sour  V. 19 “Surely not I?”  They were grieved!  Who in the world would betray their Messiah? Their King?  Striking = none of them suspected Judas, treasurer  Even when Jesus in John 13: “Go and do what you are going to do” |
| 13  They though he was going to give money to poor or to buy supplies for Passover festival  Judas so good at playing the disciple that he completely duped others  But Jesus cannot be deceived, He knows their hearts  -But oh the pain of being betrayed by your closest  friends  David said in Ps. 55:12-13  *“For it is not an enemy who reproaches me, Then I could bear it; Nor is it one who hates me who has magnified himself against me, Then I could hide myself from him. But it is you, a man my equal, My close companion and my familiar friend”*  V. 20-21 (read) Jesus says it’s one of the twelve and V. 21 the betrayal fulfills Scripture  But God ordained evil and treachery of Judas to fulfill Scriptures | 14  Yet same verse of God’s absolute sovereignty = man is fully responsible for his sin and unbelief  *“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.”*  Judas fully responsible for sin  Scriptures say even Satan entered Judas, yet Judas fully responsible for sin  Judas and Judas alone will be punished for his sins, no one else  Judas cannot say to God “God you made me betray your Son! It wasn’t my fault!” No, no, no  *“Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am being tempted by God”; for God cannot be tempted by evil, and He Himself does not tempt anyone. But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust. Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin, and when sin is fully matured, it brings forth death.”* -James 1:13-15 |
| 15  We come to center of whole passage that sheds light on Markan sandwich of vv. 12-31 as well as vv. 1-11  The Lord’s Supper  Jesus takes it, breaks bread and gives it to disciples  “Take it; this is My body”  Jesus breaks bread to symbolize His body broken for sinners  Jesus repeat twice importance of His body  14:8 = *“Anointed MY BODY beforehand for the burial”*  14:22 = *“Take it, this is MY BODY”*  1 Peter 2:24  Jesus *“Himself bore our sins on His body on the tree, so that having died to sin, we might live to righteousness; by His WOUNDS YOU WERE HEALED.”* | 16  Do you see the necessity of consuming Jesus’ body for your sins?  Do you see it as necessary for living to righteousness?  V. 23  Jesus takes cup, gives thanks, gives it to all them to drink  V. 24 “blood of the covenant” = “blood of the new covenant”  It is a covenant unlike the Old Covenant. God Himself will put His law within them and they will all know Him…and he will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more  But for a covenant to be enacted, there has to be shedding of blood  Jesus Himself is the one who by His own shed blood enact a new covenant |
| 17  Israel was not supposed to eat blood or eat meat with blood because life = blood  Plus only shedding of blood could take away sins, so didn’t want it to be common food. It was sacred.  Yet Jesus instituted something new by commanding us to eat and drink his flesh and blood  Symbolized not only forgiveness of sins but eternal life flowing through the believer  Christ’s atonement not only delivers from spiritual death but imparts spiritual life  Rom. 5:10  *“For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.”*  And then Jesus says in verse 25  *“Truly I say to you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God.”* | 18  What is He saying?  Earthly millennial kingdom where all redeemed will have final feast with Lord in marriage supper of Lamb  We won’t need to take communion anymore that day because Jesus will be physically there with us  -Unbroken communion forever  What body and blood secured for us spiritually will be physically realized in kingdom  That’s why Paul 1 Cor. 11:26  *“For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the death of the Lord until He comes.”*  14:26 closing of sandwich going back to betrayal by disciples  Sing hymn, probably a psalm, go out to Mount of Olives  Jesus says read vv. 27-28 |
| 19  Why are disciples going to abandon Jesus?  1. To fulfill Zechariah 13:7  2. They still didn’t get it:  Luke 22 (same account)  Right after Jesus says one will betray Him, they started to argue who is the greatest!  Really? Most sobering, sad time and all they could think about was themselves!  But Jesus ended on a hopeful note  V. 28 “But after I have been raised, I will go ahead of you to Galilee”  Jesus won’t be kept in the grave. 3 days later He will rise triumphant from the grave  V. 29 Peter underestimating his weakness  *“Even though all may fall away, yet I will not”* | 20  V. 30 (read)  V. 31 Peter denying Scriptures’ fulfillment kept insistently saying, *“If I have to die with You, I will not deny You!”*  *ekperiosos* = going beyond normal limits and kept saying it repeatedly because verb was in imperfect tense  “I will not deny you, I will not deny you, I will not deny you!”  And all the rest were saying same thing as well  Even though they weren’t like Judas in handing Jesus over, disciples would all eventually abandon Jesus at his arrest  They too failed to see value of His death and what it would bring |
| 21  Pharisees wanted Jesus put on cross  Judas exchanged the cross for money  Disciples wanted the crown before the cross  Mary simply wanted the cross  She honored His death knowing expensive nard would be nothing compared to infinite cost of His death for sinners  She loved her Lord, she understood why He came to earth  And we must remember that no matter how big a sacrifice is, if no love, then it means nothing  1 Cor. 13  Even if you give your body to be burned to death, but do not have love, it means nothing | 22  Feast of Unleavened Bread was to commemorate Israel’s hasty departure from Egypt  Leaven represented sin and corruption  Jesus warned his disciples of the “leaven of the Pharisees and of Herod”  So Israel to eat bread without leaven  Passover was celebration of death passing over Israelites and striking Egyptians firstborns  Israel told to sacrifice lamb and splatter its blood on door to let angel of death know that price of death has been paid for.  Israel too was not innocent for if they didn’t do that, they would struck down too  Jesus in His sovereignty orchestrated all of redemptive history of His crucifixion to match exactly the day of Passover |
| 23  250,000 quarter of million lambs slain for Passover  Millions flocked for commemoration.  Just imagine century after century millions of lambs killed and its blood shed until time of Christ  Can you imagine how much blood was shed?  It would have been river of blood  Yet Scriptures say that blood of bulls and goats does not take away sins  It needs to be blood of God-man, Jesus Christ  Every time lamb was violently slain and its blood gushed out, picture of you!  You should have been slained like this animal  When Adam and Eve sinned, what did God do?  Kill them on the spot? He could of, He would have been just in doing so | 24  Instead He killed animal and clothed them with its skin  In the same way God clothed you with the righteousness of Christ so that the wrath of God will pass you by just like angel of death did to the doors smeared with the blood of the lamb  You deserved death but God took your place  “He made Him who knew no sin to be sin our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”  How do you exchange your life for Jesus’ life?  You need to partake of body and blood of Jesus.  How do you do that?  By faith  You need to believe that death of Jesus satisfied wrath of God |
| 25  You need to believe that He has paid the penalty for the sins of all who would ever believe in Him  You need to believe that His death will bring you from death to life  You need to be believe that one day as Rom. 6:5 says,  *“if you are united with Him in the likeness of His death, certainly you shall also be in the likeness of His resurrection.”*  You need to believe like Mary that Jesus’ death is priceless redemption and that He is worthy of all honor, worship, adoration, and praise and that nothing you can do, whether a year’s worth of perfume or your very life is too costly a sacrifice for the Lord Jesus Christ  For all you who HAVE been untied to the death of Christ  Let Rom. 6:6-7 encourage you that.. | 26  *“your old man was crucified with Him, in order that your body of sin might be done away with, so that you would no longer be slaves to sin; for he who has died has been justified from sin.”*  Don’t be like chief priests and scribes who exchanged kingdom of Chris for their own kingdom  Don’t be like Judas who exchanged Christ for this world  Don’t be like even the disciples who wanted the crown before the cross  Be like the woman who exchanged all the riches of this world for the riches of eternal life.  Oh what glorious redemption!  Let’s pray |