

Luke 22

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I. 22:1-6 Judas Makes a Deal

- A. 22:3 *Satan entered Judas* Judas was probably always something of a jerk, but at this point he is literally indwelt by Satan, so he goes out and cuts a deal to turn Jesus over to His enemies.
- B. 22:5 *money* Matthew mentions the amount, “thirty pieces of silver”, which was prophesied in Zechariah 11:12.
- C. 22:2, 6 *they feared the people, in the absence of the multitude* This explains why they didn't just take Jesus at any time. They wanted to get Him while He was alone with the disciples to prevent a bad reaction from the crowds – a cowardly approach to be sure.

II. 22:7-38 Christ's Last Passover

- A. 22:7-13 The Passover was and is celebrated each year by the Jews to commemorate God's deliverance of the nation from Egypt. It's so full of special traditions the meal can almost be described as a ritual. In the next section Christ will link the Passover to our deliverance from sin – which happens through His death.
- B. 22:14-20 **Application:** This is why we celebrate communion the way we do. We're remembering Jesus and His death until He comes. From the time of the early church this has been practiced and it will continue until Christ's return.
 - i. 22:16, 18 Notice the word “until” in these verses. That day is coming, the day of His kingdom, when we will eat and drink and celebrate with Him.
- C. 22:21-23 Jesus is obviously talking about Judas, but the others didn't know what Judas was up to at that moment.
- D. 22:24-27 Luke wasn't one of the original twelve, but he is the only one to share this little tidbit. Matthew and John, thinking back on it, probably felt too stupid.
- E. 22:28 *you are those ... My trials* **Application:** This is one of the most rewarding things that Christians can do for one another. Ask God to show you someone you can stick with and support as they go through a time of difficulty. Maybe you're doing it already. Sure it will be hard, but it will be so worth it in the end.

- F. 22:33-34 *I am ready...* Peter's first mistake was not admitting he had the ability to deny Christ. He had more self-confidence than God-confidence.

Application: Thinking that God can count on us v. Knowing that we can count on God
It's not so much whether the Lord can count on us that matters, but whether we're willing to truly count on Him. Trusting Him at all times is what helps us to be faithful.

III. 22:39-46 In the Garden of Gethsemane

- A. We might say this is the real point at which the battle for our souls was won. From this point on, Calvary is clearly inevitable.

IV. 22:47-53 Arresting Jesus

- A. 22:50 In John 18:10, John tells us the servant's name, Malchus, and that he was a servant of the high priest. He also tells us it was Simon Peter that did the cutting.
- B. 22:51 *He touched his ear and healed him* Luke, the doctor, is the only one of the Gospel writers to record this little detail. He was very interested in such things.

V. 22:54-62 Peter's Denial

- A. 22:54 *Peter followed at a distance* This is Peter's next mistake. People who attempt to follow Jesus at distance, rather than staying close, always get themselves in trouble. The reason is that the enemy of our souls is always on the lookout for those especially vulnerable, distant followers.

1 Peter 5:8 (NKJV) Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

Lions tend to go after prey that are weak or straggling and alone. They don't go after the strong ones in the midst of the pack – it's too difficult. Satan uses the same strategy.

- B. 22:55-56 Peter's third big goof was *trying to warm himself at the fire of Christ's enemies*. We can't get the comfort we need in the same places the Lord's enemies find it. When we try to join them in their enjoyments we feel a certain uneasiness in our hearts. It doesn't work. We may kid ourselves into thinking it does, but just when we feel the best is when we'll realize we've fallen into a trap.

- These three errors of Peter are common and they normally go together:
 - More self-confidence than God-confidence “I'll *never* deny you Jesus!”
 - Following Jesus at a distance “Hey, I'll catch up later.”
 - Seeking warmth at the fire of Christ's enemies. “What harm can it do?”

C. 22:57-62 And so Peter finds himself in a quagmire of denial. The sad thing is he didn't get there by accident, but by several tragic, deliberate steps.

VI. 22:63-71 The Trial Begins

A. And we'll pick up where this leaves off in Chapter 23 next week.