

MATTHEW 26

NLET

JESUS FORETELLS HIS CRUCIFIXION AGAIN

1 And, *it* came to be that when the Jesus completed ¹ the words – *that is*, these, He said to the disciples *that were* His, 2 “You know that after two day the Paschal Feast comes to be. And, the Son of the Man is being handed over to be crucified.”

THE JEWISH LEADERSHIP AGREE TO SIEZE JESUS

AFTER THE PASSOVER

3 Then, the Chief Priests, and the Scribes², and the Elders of the People were gathered together in the enclosed courtyard of the Chief Priest, the one who is called ‘Caiaphas’.

4 And, they were agreeing together that they should seize the Jesus by deceit and condemn *Him* to death.

5 Now, they were saying, “Not during the Feast, lest a tumult might occur amongst the People!”

JESUS IS ANOINTED WITH SWEET OIL

FOR BURIAL BEFOREHAND

6 Now, while the Jesus was in Bethany in the house of Simon the Leper, 7 a woman came to Him, having an alabaster vase of sweet oil – very costly!

And, she poured *it* out upon³ the head *that was* His, while *He* was reclining *at a table*.

8 Now, having seen *this*, the disciples *that were* His⁴ were displeased, saying, “For what *reason* is the loss – *namely*, this *loss*? 9 For, this – *that is*, the sweet oil⁵ – is able to be sold for much and *the money* be giving to the⁶ beggarly poor *ones*!”

10 Now, knowing *this by observation*, the Jesus said to them, “Why do you keep on handing the woman over *to abuse*? For, she has done an excellent deed in regard to Me!

11 For, always you have the beggarly poor *ones* in the midst of yourselves. But, you do NOT always have ME!

12 For, when she let the sweet oil fall upon the body *that is* Mine, she did it to prepare Me for burial.

13 Assuredly I say to you, whereas if ever the Excellent Announcement – *namely*, this *one* – might be heralded in all the *Created Order*, also what this *woman* did shall be spoken in regard to a remembrance of her.”

JUDAS ARRANGES TO HAND JESUS OVER

14 Then, one of the Twelve – the one who is being called Judas Iscariot, having gone to the Chief Priests, 15 said, “What do you want to give to me and, to you I, for my part, shall hand Him over?”

Now, the *Chief Priests* weighed out for him thirty coins of silver.

16 And, from then *on* he was seeking an opportunity that he might hand Him over.

JESUS AND THE DISCIPLES ARRANGE

TO EAT THE PASCHAL FEAST

17 Now, on the first *day* of the *Feast* of Unleavened Bread the disciples come to the Jesus, saying to Him⁷, “Where do you wish *that* we shall prepare⁸ for You to eat the Paschal *Feast*?”

18 Now, the *Jesus* said, “Go into the city to the so-and-so. And, say to him, ‘The Teacher says, “The critical time *that is* Mine is near! By means of you I am celebrating the Paschal *Feast* with the disciple *that are* Mine.”’”

19 And, the disciples did as the Jesus arranged for them. And, they prepared the Paschal *Feast*.

JESUS ANNOUNCES THAT ONE OF THE TWELVE

SHALL HAND HIM OVER

20 Now, when *it* was late *in the day*, He was reclining at table with the Twelve.

21 And, while they were eating, He said, “Assuredly I say to you that one from among you shall hand Me over.”

22 And, being grieved exceedingly, each of them⁹ began to say to Him, “I, *for my part*, am not *he*, *am I*, Lord?”

¹ 95% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), do not include the word ‘all’ here.

² 95% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the words ‘and the Scribes,’ here.

³ 30% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have an accusative noun phrase here instead of an genitive noun phrase here. In both cases the preposition preceding them can mean ‘upon’ or ‘on’.

⁴ 98.5% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the genitive noun phrase translated as ‘that were His’ here.

⁵ 93% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of

transmission (f35), include the noun phrase translated as ‘that is the sweet oil’ here.

⁶ 40% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the definite article ‘the’ here.

⁷ 98.5% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the dative pronoun translated as ‘to Him’ here.

⁸ 85% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have ‘shall prepare’ (a future tense verb) here instead of ‘should prepare’ (a subjunctive verb).

⁹ 97% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have ‘each of them’ here instead of ‘one each’.

23 Now, responding, the Jesus said, “The one having dipped the hand with Me in the bowl – this *one* shall hand Me over.”

24 On the one hand, the Son of the Man goes, just it has been lastingly written concerning Him. On the other hand, woe to the man – *namely*, that *one* – by agency of whom the Son of the Man is handed over.

It was being good for him, if the man – namely, that man – was not generated!”

25 Now, responding, Judas, the one who is handing Him over, said, “I, *for my part*, am not *he*, *am I*, Rabbi?”

He says, “You, *for your part*, have said *it correctly!*”

JESUS EXPLAINS WHAT THIS PASSOVER MEAL REALLY IS

26 Now, while they were eating, the Jesus, having taken the¹⁰ *Loaf of Flatbread* and having blessed God, broke off *pieces*.

And, He was giving¹¹ *them* to the disciples.

And,¹² He said, “Take *them!* Eat *them!*”

This¹³ *this thing that you are eating* is the Body *that is* Mine.

27 And, having taken the¹⁴ Cup and having given thanks, He gave *it* to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you.

28 For, this *this thing that you are drinking*¹⁵ is

- the Blood *that is* Mine,
- the Blood of the¹⁶ New¹⁷ Testament,
- the Blood which is being poured out for many for an acquittal of *moral* failures

29 Now, I say to you that¹⁸ I shall by no means drink from this – *that is*, the produce of the vine – from now until the Day – *that is*, that Day whenever I drink it with you new in the Kingdom of the Father *that is* Mine.

¹⁰ 97% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the definite article ‘the’ here.

¹¹ 97% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have ‘was giving’ (an imperfect active verb) here instead of ‘having given’ (an aorist participle).

¹² 97% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the conjunction ‘And,’ here.

¹³ ‘This’ – This demonstrative pronoun is neuter, whereas the Greek word for ‘bread’ is masculine; hence, the translation ‘This thing that you are eating’.

¹⁴ 96% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the definite article ‘the’ here.

¹⁵ ‘This’ – This demonstrative pronoun is also neuter. (The Greek word for ‘blood’ is neuter.)

¹⁶ 99% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the two words translated as ‘the Blood of the’ here. On the basis of three manuscripts (X, P³⁷, and B) the NU omits them.

¹⁷ 99% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of

30 And, after they sang a hymn, He went out to the Mount of the Olive Trees.

JESUS PROPHESES

THAT HIS APOSTLES SHALL FORSAKE HIM

31 Then, the Jesus¹⁹ says to them, “All of you, *for your parts*, shall be caught in a deathtrap in connection with Me in the night – *that is*, this *one*. For, it has been lastingly written, “**I shall strike the shepherd; and, the sheep of the flock shall be scattered abroad.**”²⁰

32 Now, after I have been raised, I shall go before you into the *region of Galilee.*”

33 Now, responding, the Peter said to Him, “If even²¹ all shall be caught in a deathtrap in connection with You, I, *for my part*, shall never be caught in a deathtrap!”

34 The Jesus was saying to him, “Assuredly I say to you that in this – *that is*, the night, before a rooster crows, three times you shall deny Me.

35 The Peter says to Him, “Even *if ever it* is necessary for me to die with You, I shall BY NO MEANS deny YOU!”

Now,²² similarly also all the disciples spoke.

JESUS PRAYS URGENTLY THREE TIMES IN GETHSEMANE

WHILE HIS DISCIPLES DRIFT OFF TO SLEEP

36 Then, the Jesus comes with them into a place being called ‘Gethsemane’²³.

And, He says to the disciples, “Sit just here until I, having gone away, might pray there²⁴.”

37 And, having taken along the Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, He began to be grieved and to be in anguish.

38 Then, the Jesus²⁵ says to them, “The psyche *that is* Mine is deeply grieved – to the point of death!

transmission (f35), include the word translated as ‘New’ here. On the basis of three manuscripts (X, P³⁷, and B) the NU omits it.

¹⁸ 97% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the word ‘that’ here.

¹⁹ 90% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the subject ‘the Jesus’ here.

²⁰ A reference to Zechariah 13:7

²¹ 30% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the word translated as ‘even’ here.

²² 96% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the conjunction ‘Now,’ here.

²³ 85% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have the spelling ‘Gethesmane’ here. On the basis of one manuscript (X) the NU has ‘Gethesmani’.

²⁴ 86% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have ‘there I might pray’ here. On the basis of 4% the NU has ‘I might pray there’.

²⁵ 90% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the words ‘the Jesus’ here.

Remain here. And, stay fully awake with Me!”

39 And, having gone ahead a little, He fell upon the face *that is* His, being one who was praying and saying, “Father *that is* Mine, if it is possible, let the Cup – *namely*, this one – pass away from Me. Nevertheless, not as I, *for My part*, am wishing. Rather, as You, *for Your part*, wish.”

40 And, He comes to the *disciples*. And, He finds them sleeping.

And, He says to the Peter, “In this way are you not strong *enough* to stay awake *for* one hour with Me?

41 Keep on staying awake! And, keep on praying, lest you might enter into a temptation!

On the one hand, the spirit *is* an eager *thing*; on the other hand, the flesh *is* a *thing* without strength.”

42 Again, for a second *time*, having departed, He prayed, saying, “Father *that is* Mine, if *it* is not possible that this – *that is*, the Cup²⁶ – pass by away from Me²⁷ if ever I might not drink it, let the will *that is* Yours come to be.”

43 And, having come, He found them again²⁸ sleeping. For, the eyes that were THEIRS had been lastingly weighed down.

44 And, leaving them, having gone away again, He was praying, ²⁹ for a third *time* saying the same word ³⁰.

45 Then, He comes to the disciples *that are* His³¹. And, He says to them, “You are sleeping the *time* remaining; and, you are resting?!

Look! The Hour has lastingly drawn near! And, the Son of the Man is being handed over into the hands of moral failures!

46 Be raising yourselves! Let us be going!

Look! The one who is handing Me over ³² !

JUDAS HANDS JESUS OVER TO THE THRONG

47 And, while He was still speaking, look! Judas, one of the Twelve, came! And, with him a throng – a great one – *came* with short swords and wooden *clubs* from the High Priests and Elders of the People.

48 Now, the one who is handing Him over gave them a sign, saying, “Whom, if ever³³ I might kiss *Him*, He, *for His part*, is *the One*. Seize Him!”

49 And, immediately, having come up to the Jesus, he said, “Hail, Rabbi!” And, he kissed Him amorously.

50 Now, the Jesus said to him, “Comrade, you are present against Whom *you ought not be*.³⁴”

Then, having come forward, they laid the hands upon the Jesus. And, they seized Him.

JESUS REBUFFS PETER'S MISGUIDED EFFORT TO RESIST

51 And, look! One of the *ones* with Jesus, having stretched out the hand, drew the short sword *that was* his. And, having struck the slave of the High Priest, he took off the ear *that was* HIS!

52 Then, the Jesus says to him, “Return the short sword *that is* YOURS³⁵ to the place *that is* its. For, all the ones who take a short sword by a short sword are being put to death³⁶.”

53 Or, do you think that I am not able just now³⁷ to invoke the Father *that is* Mine; and, He shall place beside me the³⁸ twelve legions of angels?

²⁶ 97% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the noun phrase ‘the cup’ here.

²⁷ 98% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the prepositional phrase ‘away from Me’ here.

²⁸ 30% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have ‘He found them again’ here. 66% have ‘He was finding them again’. On the basis of 4% the NU has ‘again He found them’.

²⁹ 94% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have ‘having departed again He was praying’ here. On the basis of 2% the NU has ‘again having departed He was praying’.

³⁰ 99.5% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), do not include the adverb ‘again’ here.

³¹ 90% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the possessive pronoun translated as ‘that were His’ here.

³² 20% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), do not include the verb ‘has lastingly drawn near’ here.

³³ 40% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have ‘if ever’ here instead of ‘ever’.

³⁴ 90% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have ‘against Whom’ here instead of ‘against what’.

³⁵ 95% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have ‘the short sword *that is* YOURS’ (a word order emphasizing the possessive pronoun) here instead of ‘the short sword that is yours’.

³⁶ 90% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have ‘are being put to death’ (a present passive verb) here instead of ‘shall be utterly destroyed’ (a future passive form of another verb).

³⁷ 97% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have the adverb translated as ‘just now’ here. On the basis of 0.5% the NU has this adverb later in the sentence.

³⁸ 99.5% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the definite article ‘the’ here.

54 So then, how might the Writings be fulfilled that in this way it is necessary to come about?"

JESUS REBUFFS THE THRONGS
FOR THEIR MISGUIDED ACTIVITY

55 At that – *that is*, the hour – the Jesus said to the throngs, "As against a robber do you come out with short swords and wooden clubs to arrest Me?

Every day, before you, I was sitting in the Temple, teaching³⁹. And, you did not seize Me!

56 Now, this whole event lastingly came to be in order that the Writings of the Prophet might be fulfilled."

ALL OF THE DISCIPLES FLEE

Then, the disciples – all of *them*, having left Him, fled.

JESUS IS LEAD AWAY TO THE JEWISH LEADERS

57 Now, the ones who had seized the Jesus led *Him* away to Caiaphas the High Priest, where the Scribes and the Elder were gathered together.

PETER FOLLOWED JESUS

INTO THE COURTYARD OF THE CHIEF PRIEST

58 Now, the Peter was following Him from a distance up to the enclosed courtyard of the Chief Priest. And, having entered inside, he was sitting with the attendants to see the outcome.

NO ONE WAS ABLE TO JUSTLY TESTIFY AGAINST JESUS

59 Now, the Chief Priests, and the Elders,⁴⁰ and the Sanhedrin – *the whole of it* – were seeking false testimony against the Jesus so that they might put Him to death. 60 And, they did not find *any*.

And,⁴¹ although many were bearing false testimony, having come forward, they did not find *any*⁴².

Now, later, having come forward, two false witnesses⁴³ 61 said, "This *One* was saying, 'I am able to destroy the Sanctuary of the God and over the course of three days rebuild it'⁴⁴.

62 And, having stood up, the Chief Priest said to Him, "Do you answer nothing? What *about the things* these are testifying against You?"

63 Now, the Jesus remained silent.

JESUS TESTIFIES CONCERNING HIS IDENTITY

And, having responded,⁴⁵ the High Priest said to Him, "I adjure you in respect of the God – *namely*, the One Who is living – that You should tell us whether You, *for Your part*, are the Anointed One, the Son of the God!"

64 The Jesus says to him, "You, *for your part*, have said it *correctly*!

Except, I say to you *people*, far away from now you shall see the '**Son of the Man**', sitting at *the* right of the Power and '**coming upon the clouds of the Heaven**'⁴⁶!"

JESUS IS CONDEMNED FOR SUPPOSEDLY BLASPHEMING

65 Then, the Chief ripped apart the outer garment *that* was his, saying⁴⁷, "He has blasphemed!

What further need do we have of witnesses?

Look! Just now you have heard the blasphemy *that* is His⁴⁸!

66 What do you think?"

The *men*, having responded, said, "He is **LIABLE FOR A PENALTY OF DEATH!**"

JESUS IS ABUSED AND MOCKED

67 Then, they spat into the face *that* was His. And, they slapped Him.

Now, the *men* flogged *Him*, 68 saying, "Prophecy for us, Anointed One! Who is the one who struck You?"

PETER DENIES JESUS THREE TIMES

BEFORE A ROOSTER CROWS

69 Now, the Peter outside was sitting⁴⁹ in the enclosed courtyard. And, one young female servant came to him, saying, "Also you, *for your part*, were with Jesus, the *One* from Galilee."

³⁹ 30% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), have 'before you, I was sitting in the Temple, teaching' here. On the basis of two manuscripts (X and B) the NU has 'in the Temple before you, I was sitting teaching'.

⁴⁰ 99% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the words 'and the Elders,' here.

⁴¹ 99% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the conjunction 'And,' here.

⁴² 99% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include 'they did not find any' here.

⁴³ 98% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the noun 'false witnesses' here.

⁴⁴ 98.5% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the direct object 'it' here. On the basis of one manuscript (B) the NU omits it.

⁴⁵ 97% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the participle 'having responded,' here. On the basis of one manuscript (B) the NU omits it.

⁴⁶ A reference to Daniel 7:13

⁴⁷ 99% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the Greek word ὅτι here which often indicates the beginning of a quotation. In such cases in English it need not be translated because quotation marks accomplish the same purpose.

⁴⁸ 99.5% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the possessive pronoun translated as 'that is His' here.

⁴⁹ 97% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission, have the word order 'outside was sitting' here instead of 'was sitting outside'.

70 Now, the *Peter* denied *it* in front of them⁵⁰ – *that is*, all of *them* – saying, “I do NOT know what you are saying!”

71 Now, after he⁵¹ had gone out into the gateway, another *young female servant* saw him. And, she says to them⁵² there, “Also⁵³ this *man* was with Jesus the Natzarene!”

72 And, again he denied *it* with an oath, “I do NOT know the man!”

73 Now, after a little *while*, having come to *him*, ones who had lastingly stood *there* said to the Peter, “Truly, also you, *for your part*, are from among them; for, even the dialect *that is* yours manifests you plainly!”

74 Then, he began to curse and to swear, “I do NOT know the man.”

And, immediately a rooster crowed.

75 And, the Peter was reminded of the utterance of Jesus, having lastingly been spoken to him⁵⁴: “Before a rooster has crowed, three *times* you shall deny Me.”

And, having gone outside, he wept bitterly.

⁵⁰ 90% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the pronoun ‘them’ here.

⁵¹ 98.5% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the pronoun translated as ‘he’ here.

⁵² 90% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of

transmission, have ‘to them’ here instead of ‘to the ones’.

⁵³ 99.5% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the word translated as ‘Also’ here.

⁵⁴ 99% of the Greek manuscripts, including the best line of transmission (f35), include the pronoun translated as ‘to him’ here.