

## THE LAST WEEK OF THE LORD JESUS ON EARTH

### Via. The Day of Passover and The Crucifixion of Jesus

(Part 1) Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> Nisán (April 3), A.D. 33

Mt. 26:1-5, 14-19; Mk. 14:1,2, 12-16; Lk. 22:1-13; Jn. 12:20-50; 13:1

#### Introduction:

We have been studying each of the last seven days of the last week in the physical life of The Lord Jesus Christ on Earth. He was served a cooked meal at **Baythah-néeah** (Bethany) in the dwelling of Simon the leper, prepared and served by **Máhrthah** and eaten in second evening (sunset til dark) on Sunday, 9 Nisán (March 29), ‘six days before Passover.’ After dinner that evening, it was too late (after dark) to travel any distance (especially c. thirteen miles) back to Ehfráh-éem, where He had been tarrying for the last five days so Jesus and His disciples retired to spend the night at **Baythah-néeah** (Bethany). They began the journey to Jerusalem in the next morning, Monday, 10 Nisán (March 30). He made His Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem and entered The Temple. Then He returned to and passed Monday night also at **Baythah-néeah**.

Then on Tuesday morning, on their journey to Jerusalem, He and His disciples descended the Mount of Olives and came upon a fig tree having leaves but no fruit. That day The Lord Jesus demonstrated and expressed four of His emotions by: Cursing the Fig Tree, Crying over Jerusalem, Cleansing The Temple, and Conveying Compassion upon the Helpless in the court of The Temple.

Although Wednesday is regarded by many Bible teachers and scholars to be a day of silence for The Lord Jesus Christ, that day He spent more time teaching His disciples and the multitudes in The Temple with more details of His teaching recorded by Matthew, Mark, and Luke, than any other day of His three year ministry. Early Wednesday morning before dawn (c. 6:00 A.M.) on their way to The Temple from The Mount of Olives, Jesus and His twelve disciples beheld the fig tree, which Jesus had cursed the day before, completely dried up from the roots. He taught his disciples on this day during three segments of time throughout the day. First in early morning, **Lessons Taught on the Way to The Temple**, c. 6:00 -c. 7:30 A.M.); then **His Ministry in The Temple**, c. 8:00 A. M.-c. 6:30 P.M.); and **His Ministry on the Mount of Olives**, c. 6:30 P.M.-Sundown. In most of His Teachings on this day Jesus used parables to illustrate and emphasize The Truth He intended to communicate.

On Thursday, these six events took place in Jerusalem: The Consultation of The Priests, The Covenant to Betray Jesus, The Concern of the of the Greek-speaking Jews, The Concern of the Disciples, The Command to Prepare The Passover; and The Compliance In Preparation. When He finished His sayings on The Mount of Olives on Wednesday, it was nearly Sundown when Jesus announced He was going to be betrayed to the chief priests and scribes, then finished His Teachings at the Mount of Olives. It was at that same time that Judas **Eeskahreeōtays** (Iscariot) slipped away from the disciples and journeyed to contract with the chief priests and military leaders of the Temple custody (guard) to betray Jesus for thirty silver shekels. During the day, Thursday certain Hellenists (Greek-speaking Jews) came to Jerusalem, from Gentile-occupied foreign countries to observe the annual Passover in Jerusalem. They heard about Jesus and His supernatural works and desired to see Him personally. The remainder of the day was spent by The Lord replying to the Hellenists and teaching the crowd that surrounded them in their reaction to the unusual thunderous answer from The God to Jesus’ brief prayer, “Father, glorify Your Name!”

After this the disciples approached Jesus and expressed a concern about the customary observance of the Passover. Jesus sent Peter and John with explicit instructions as to where they would observe the Passover. Therefore Peter would be the host and most responsible for preparation of the meal. The two left to obey their Master's orders.

Then in the second evening, from sunset until dark, "When the hour of His (to eat the Passover on the day of His crucifixion) had come, He sat down and His disciples with Him." They began to eat and Jesus arose out of dinner and washed the disciples feet and wiped them with the towel he had wrapped around His waist. John in his Gospel made particular notice that Judas **Eeskahreeōtays** was present because Jesus called attention to the fact that one of them was by no means clean. "For He perceived the one betraying Him" (Jn. 13:11). After Jesus sat down, He applied His example of the act of foot-washing to them to wash the feet of one another and then instituted The Lord's Supper. Then he announced His betrayal and gave the sop to Judas **Eeskahreeōtays**. Judas went out and it was night.

Now we shall observe the start of the last day, which began shortly before dark, at sunset. Shortly thereafter Judas went out into the dark. We shall observe the breaks of time according to the four three-hour segments called watches or guards of the night.

#### I. The Second Guard of the Night: 9:00 P.M. to Midnight

While still in the Upper Room, The Lord Jesus Christ: announced His imminent glorification; gave The New Commandment; stated His first prediction of Peter's denial after Peter questioned where Jesus was slipping away and why he could not follow Jesus now (Jn. 13:37,38a). "A rooster shall positively not crow until which [time] you<sup>s</sup> shall utterly deny Me three times. Amen, Amen, I am saying to you<sup>s</sup>." Then Luke picked up the next quote, <sup>31</sup>. . . "Simon, Simon! Lo! /Satan demanded you<sup>& all</sup> for himself in order to sift<sup>[with a sieve]</sup> you<sup>s</sup> as the wheat. <sup>32</sup>But I Myself supplicated concerning you<sup>s</sup>, *Peter*, in order that your<sup>s</sup> /faith not fail. And once you<sup>s</sup> are converted, confirm your<sup>s</sup> /brothers!" (Lk. 22:31.32). Then Jesus gave instructions for future service. About 9:25 P.M. Jesus began to deliver His Promissory Discourse of His Coming-again. Together they exited the Upper Room to begin the journey to **Gethsaimahnáy** on the Mount of Olives. After exiting the house (around 10:20 P.M.), as they walked through the city, Jesus declared His disciples will be offended. He predicted Peter's denial a second time. Jesus discoursed on New Relationships on the way to the Garden: The Vine and The Branches; Love; The World; The Paraclete; and His Own Departure.

#### II. The Third Guard of the Night: Midnight -3:00 A.M.

This guard or watch was broken into two segments according to what transpired.

##### A. Journey to **Gethsaimahnáy**: Midnight to c. 1:15 A.M.

1. At Midnight Jesus continued His discourse on New Relationships on the way to the Garden: His Departure by Death: Sorrow and Joy, Prayer, His Second Advent, Tribulation, and Peace.
2. About 12:30 A.M. Jesus began His High Priestly Prayer.
3. About 1:15 A.M. Together they exited Jerusalem) and crossed the **Kéhdron** Brook.

##### B. In The Garden of **Gethsaimahnáy**: c. 1:25-2:45 A.M.

1. The Hour of Prayer: c. 1:25-2:25 A.M.  
After entering **Gethsaimahnáy** in the middle of the third watch of the night, He asked his disciples to pray with Him for one

hour. Then Jesus went a stone's throw away and prayed three times in one hour, returning after each time and found them sleeping. The third time He prayed more intently, resulting in His sweating clots of blood. At the close of the hour of prayer, Jesus returned and said to them, "Lo! the hour has drawn near and The Son of Man<sup>[Human]</sup> is being betrayed into <sup>0</sup>hands of sinners. <sup>46</sup>Be arising! Let us pass on! Lo! The<sup>+</sup> one betraying Me has drawn near" (Mt. 26:45,46 APT).

In the meantime, Judas had been leading a company of Temple guards and attendants of the chief priests and Pharisees, carrying lanterns, torches, and weapons on the way to **Gethsaymahnáy** to abduct Jesus. The crowd led by Judas emerged alongside in the garden with an agreed upon signal to identify Jesus with a kiss.

2. c. 2:25-2:40 A.M.: Jesus was Betrayed by Judas and Arrested in the Garden of **Gethsaymahnáy**.

Jesus approached the multitude being led by Judas **Eeskahree-ótays** and asked, "Whom are you seeking?" When they named Him, He told them, "I AM Myself continuously being." Then they fell back on the ground away from Him. This was repeated. Judas kissed Him. Then Peter cut off the outer ear of the high priest's servant, **Mahlkhóhs**. Jesus touched and cured it.

3. c. 2:40-3:00 A.M.: The company of Temple Militia bound Jesus and all the disciples abandoned Him and fled. The Militia and the crowds led Jesus in bonds from **Gethsaymahnáy** on the Mount of Olives to Jerusalem. Peter and John followed the procession afar off (Mk. 14:53; Jn. 18:13-15). They crossed the brook Kidron, entered the city at the Gate of Ophel and proceeded to the high priests' houses just beyond where the Passover was eaten earlier that night.

### III. The Fourth Guard of the Night: 3:00 - 6:00 A.M.

3. c. 3:00-3:40 A.M. Jesus, being bound, was led through the streets across the city of Jerusalem to the southwest corner, just north of the house with the upper room, to the dwellings of **Ahnnahs** and **Kaiáhfhahs**, with a courtyard between the dwellings, to undergo two trials. They went to the dwelling of **Ahnnahs** first with Peter following from afar off. John, being an acquaintance to the high priest, entered the courtyard gateway. But Peter lingered at the door til John came and spoke to the doorkeeper, who admitted him (Lk. 14:51,52).

### B. c. 3:40-4:00 A.M. Peter's Three Denials Twice Amid The Two Trials of Jesus Before the High Priests, **Ahnnahs** and **Kaiáhfhahs**.

1. The First Set of three denials occurred while Jesus was tried in the dwelling of **Kaiáhfhahs** before the first cock crow (Mk. 14:68).  
First Occasion of Denial: (#1) To the young-female-bondslave-doorkeeper while Peter was standing with the attendants warming themselves at the fire (Jn. 18:15-17-18);  
Second Occasion of Denial: (#2) To a certain young-female-bondslave while Peter was now sitting near the fire (Lk. 22:55-57; Mt. 26:69,70; Mk. 14:54b,c,66-68d);  
Third Occasion of Denial: (#3) To another of the same kind male (bondslave or attendant) a short time later, while still in the courtyard (Lk. 22:58).

Then Peter exited into the vestibule and the first cockcrow occurred (Mk. 14:68e). About one hour intervened between the third denial just before first cockcrow at c. 4:00 A.M. and the second denial

after the first cockcrow, which is actually the fifth denial (Lk. 22:59a). During this hour Jesus was taken across the courtyard to **Kaiáhfahs**' dwelling where the trial continued (Mt. 26:57-68 cf. Mk. 14:55-65; Jn. 18:24).

2. The second set of three denials occurred after the first cockcrow while Jesus was tried and took place in the gateway (forecourt) or vestibule (Mt. 26:71) before the second cockcrow (Mk. 14:72a):).

Fourth Occasion of Denial: (1) to the second (#2 above) female-bondslave the second time (Mt. 26:71,72; Mk. 14:69,70a); after which Jesus was sent to **Kaiáhfahs** (Jn. 18:24).

Fifth Occasion of Denial: (2) Repeatedly before some male attendants standing alongside with Peter warming themselves c. 4:55 A.M. (Jn. 18:25; Mt. 26:73-74b; Mk. 14:70b-71; Lk. 22:59,60).

Sixth Occasion of Denial: (3) Before a bondslave (kinsman to **Máhlkhohs** (Jn. 18:26,27) just before the second cockcrow at c. 5:00 A.M.

Thus there were six incidents of denial all together since there were two sets of three incidents in which Peter denied The Lord Jesus, so that actually The Lord's prophecy was fulfilled twice. Three times before the first cockcrow at c. 4:00 A.M. and three more times between the first and second cockcrow at c. 5:00 A.M.

C. c. 5:00-5:45 A.M. - Second Cockcrow to Daybreak. After Peter exited the vestibule to the courtyard of the high priests' dwellings about 5:00 A.M., Jesus received more violent, physical abuse by the chief priests, elders, and Scribes. They thrashed Him, blindfolded Him, and repeatedly beat His face and demanded Him to prophesy who smote Him. Also He suffered much verbal abuse by their mocking, blaspheming, and repeatedly speaking against Him. This continued for about forty-five minutes.

D. At Daybreak (c. 5:45 A.M.), the body of elders gathered together, bound Jesus, and led Him to the Court Tribunal of The Sanhedrin at the southwest corner of the Temple outside the Temple wall for judicial confirmation to condemnation (Lk. 22:63-65; 22:66-71; Mt. 27:1).

At this point we shall suspend our study until next week.

### **Conclusion:**

Today we observed the events that took place on the sixth day in The Last Week in the physical life of The Lord Jesus Christ on Friday, 14 Nisán (April 3) A.D. 33. We resumed our study just after sunset at 9:00 P.M. in the upper room in Jerusalem after Judas departed into the night. Jesus was still discoursing to His Disciples and gave to them two commandments, "Love one another as I have loved you" and "Do this (The Lord's Supper repeatedly and often in remembrance of Me." Then we observed the breaks of time according to the four three-hour segments called watches or guards of the night.

I. In The Second Guard of the Night: 9:00 P.M. to Midnight together they exited the Upper Room to begin the journey to the Mount of Olives. After exiting the house (around 10:20 P.M.), as they walked through the city, Jesus declared His disciples will be offended. He predicted Peter's denial again.

II. The Third Guard of the Night: Midnight - 3:00 A.M. was broken into two segments according to what transpired. They journeyed to **Gethsaymahnáy** from Midnight to c. 1:15 A.M. while Jesus continued His discourse on New Relationships on the way to the Garden. Then in The Garden of Gethsaymahnáy Jesus spent the hour

agonizing in prayer from c. 1:25-2:25 A.M. From c. 2:30-2:40 A.M. Jesus was Betrayed by Judas and Arrested in the Garden of Gethsaymahnáy on the Mount of Olives. And from c. 2:40-3:00 A.M. the Militia and the crowds led Jesus in bonds from Gethsaymahnáy on the Mount of Olives to Jerusalem. They continued leading Jesus to the dwelling of Ahnnahs first with Peter following from afar off. John, being an acquaintance to the high priest entered the gateway courtyard, but Peter lingered at the door until John came and spoke to the doorkeeper and ushered in Peter. Then from c. 3:00-5:00 A.M. Peter's Three Denials Twice Amid The Two Trials of Jesus Before the High Priests, **Ahnnahs and Kaiáfahs**.

1. The First Set of three denials occurred while Jesus was tried in the dwelling of **Kaiáfahs** before the first cockcrow (Mk. 14:68).

First Occasion of Denial: (#1) To the young-female-bondslave-doorkeeper while Peter was standing with the attendants warming themselves at the fire;

Second Occasion of Denial: (#2) To a certain young-female-bondslave while Peter was sitting near the fire;

Third Occasion of Denial: (#3) To another of the same kind male [bondslave] a short time later, while still in the courtyard.

Then Peter exited into the vestibule and the first cockcrow occurred. About one hour intervened between the third denial just before first cockcrow at c. 4:00 A.M. and the second denial after the first cockcrow, which is actually the fifth denial. During this hour Jesus was taken across the courtyard to **Kaiáfahs'** dwelling where the trial continued.

The Second Set of three denials occurred after the first cockcrow while Jesus was tried and took place in the gateway (forecourt) or vestibule before the second cockcrow.

Fourth Occasion of Denial: (1) to the second (#2 above) female-bondslave the second time, after which Jesus was sent to **Kaiáfahs**.

Fifth Occasion of Denial: (2) Repeatedly before some male attendants standing alongside with Peter warming themselves c. 4:55 A.M.;

Sixth Occasion of Denial: (3) Before a bondslave (kinsman to **Máhlkhohs** just before the second cockcrow at c. 5:00 A.M.

Thus there were six incidents of denial all together since there were two sets of three incidents in which Peter denied The Lord Jesus before the second cockcrow at c. 5:00 A.M.

However, we should recall that late Thursday evening Jesus predicted that Peter would deny Him

C. c. 5:00-5:45 A.M. After Peter exited the vestibule to the courtyard of the high priests' dwelling about 5:00 A.M., Jesus received more violent, physical abuse by the chief priests, elders, and Scribes. They thrashed Him, blindfolded Him, and repeatedly beat His face and demanded Him to prophesy who smote Him. Also He suffered much verbal abuse by their mocking, blaspheming, and repeatedly speaking against Him. This continued for about forty-five minutes. Then at daybreak (c. 5:45 A.M.), the body of elders gathered together, bound Jesus and led Him to the Court of The Sanhedrin at the southwest corner of the Temple outside the Temple wall for judicial confirmation to condemnation (Lk. 22:63-65; 22:66-71; Mt. 27:1).

5:45-6:30 A.M. - Daybreak and Morning Watch: After the Sanhedrin con-

demned Jesus, they led Jesus bound to Pilate and the Roman Trial Began.

**Application:** Now reflect back and remember what Jesus predicted about Peter after He gave the New Commandment, “Simon, Simon! Lo! /Satan demanded you& *all* for himself in order to sift<sup>with a sieve</sup> you\$ as the wheat. <sup>32</sup>But I Myself supplicated concerning you\$, *Peter*, in order that your\$ /faith not fail. And once you\$ are converted, confirm your\$ /brothers!” (Lk. 22:31.32). And Peter walked with and followed the teaching of The Lord as His disciple and believed with his head, but was not converted until after The Resurrection of The Lord Jesus and confessed his love, and not just affection to Him. If, and it is true, that it is possible to believe and follow the teaching of The Lord and yet have not been converted and regenerated, then it behooves us to consider ourselves and others whether we truly repented and totally committed personal, persistent trust in The Lord Jesus Christ and live the rest of our lives totally for Him. Have you, have they, have I truly been regenerated by The Holy Spirit?

What will you do now in response to this Lesson of conversion after repentance and totally committed personal, persistent trust in The Lord Jesus Christ and live the rest of your life for Him?

Dr. Fred Wittman

For next week: **Read and meditate upon: the morning and afternoon of Jesus’ Final Day of Physical Life on Earth -- The Day of Crucifixion:**

6:30-9:00 A.M.: Lk. 23:7-32; Mk. 15:6-23; Jn. 18:38-19:17; Mt. 27:15-34  
9:00-12:00 A.M.: Lk. 23:33-43; Mk. 15:24-30; Mt. 27:35-45; Jn. 19:17-30  
12:00-300 P.M.: Mt. 27:32-56; Mk. 15:31-41; Lk. 23:44-49; Jn. 19:31-42