## Preparation for Jesus' Death, Part 1: Arranging the Sacrifice (Matthew 26:1-5; 14-16)

- I. The Role of SOVEREIGN GRACE (Matt. 26:1-2)
  - A. Aware of FUTURE GLORY (26:1)
    - 1. The "Son of Man" would RETURN in "POWER and GREAT GLORY" (24:30-31)
    - 2. He would JUDGE all MANKIND (25:31-46)
    - 3. It would happen in the DISTANT FUTURE
  - B. Acknowledging IMMEDIATE SUFFERING (26:2)
    - 1. The "SON of MAN" would be "handed over for CRUCIFIXION" (cf. 16:21; 17:22-23; 20:18-19)
    - 2. It would happen during PASSOVER in TWO DAYS
      - a. NECESSARY for SALVATION
      - b. PLANNED and CONTROLED by the FATHER
- II. The Role of HATEFUL REJECTION (Matt. 26:3-5)
  - A. Identifying the CONSPIRATORS (26:3-4)

- 1. They were the "CHIEF PRIESTS and ELDERS"
- 2. They were directed by Caiaphas, the HIGH PRIEST
- B. Outlining their PLOT (26:5)
  - 1. They would "SEIZE Jesus by STEALTH"
  - 2. Their goal was to KILL HIM
  - 3. Their intent was to do so AFTER PASSOVER
- III. The Role of HYPOCRITICAL BETRAYAL (Matt. 26:14-16)
  - A. Identifying the TRAITOR (26:14*a*)
    - 1. His name was JUDAS ISCARIOT
    - 2. He was "one of THE TWELVE"
  - B. Describing the TREACHERY (26:14*b*-15*a*)
    - 1. He went to the CHIEF PRIESTS
    - 2. He offered to BETRAY Jesus for a PRICE
  - C. Modifying the CONSPIRACY (26:15*b*-16)
    - 1. They made Judas their AGENT
    - 2. This made their plan LESS COMPLICATED
    - 3. They lost CONTROL of the TIMETABLE