

### Mark 14:17-21 | Prophecy of Betrayal

- As Jesus prophesied the betrayal, the disciples seemed shocked, but one of them only pretended to be shocked. See verse 10.
- To say, **Is it I?** (v. 19) when you know the answer explains the kind of person Judas really was.
- Jesus had repeatedly explained, from the prophets, that the Messiah was going to be crucified. Here, once again, the Lord said, **The son of man indeed goeth, as it is written of him....** Yet even with this, before this night is over, we will see that those closest to Him did not understand. This brings new clarity to Acts 3:17.
- A most interesting bit of Greek grammar is used of Judas when Jesus said **Good were it for that man if he had never been born.**
  - The “if” with the indicative (used here) is used as a statement of fact in Greek, not a potentiality.
  - Jesus said of Judas that **one of you is a devil** (Jn. 6:70). Judas is also called **the son of perdition** (Jn. 17:12).
  - Most interesting: The Antichrist is also called **the son of perdition** (2 Thes. 2:3) and receives his instruction and power from Satan.
  - Could it be that Judas truly *was never born* but was the devil incarnate, just as Jesus is God incarnate? Could it be that resurrected Judas will be the Antichrist?

### Mark 14:22-25 | The Bread and the Wine

- The Lord took bread and presented it to them as a metaphor of **my body**.
- The Lord took wine and presented it as a metaphor of **my blood**.
- He told them that His blood would be **shed** as the **blood of the new testament**. That is, it would *seal the covenant* which had been made to Israel by Jeremiah.
- Paul instructed the church at Corinth on the observance of a memorial supper to be reminded of His body and His blood. This observance...
  - Looks back: to the incarnation and crucifixion.
  - Looks forward: to the Kingdom, during which time our Lord will **drink it new in the Kingdom of God** (v. 25).

### Mark 14:26-31 | Despair, Disbelief, and Hope

- Despair (v. 27): **all ye shall be offended** – that is, “scandalized.” In addition, all will be **scattered** before the night is over.
- Disbelief (vv. 29-31): Surely, they won’t all scatter, will they? All of them said they would not scatter (v. 31). While Peter *did* follow (v. 54), he also denied knowing the Lord (v. 30).
- Hope (v. 28): The men should have “hung their hat” on these words.

### Mark 14:32-41 | The Hour of Decision

- Verses 35-36 show that there was “an hour of decision” for Jesus Christ.
- Matthew 26:53 shows that *He really did have an ability* to call it all off.
- Sadly, in His most difficult hour, those closest to Him were sleeping. Graciously, as far as we know, this was never later mentioned by Jesus.

### Mark 14:42-50 | The Arrest

- Judas betrayed with a kiss, which is possibly more ironic for us than for the ancient Middle East.
- Judas wanted Jesus taken **safely** (v. 44). This is likely not irony either, but rather an issue of *profitability*.
- The manner of these government officials was so “nasty” that Jesus chose to mention it: **I was daily with you in the temple teaching, and ye took me not** (v. 49).
- From this time, Jesus was alone – v. 50.

### Mark 14:51-52 | The Man Almost Caught

- This is certainly an intriguing story!
- Whoever he was, he was likely a well-to-do man, for he had a **linen cloth**.
- Most speculate that this was John Mark, as his “signature” to the Gospel. A means of saying, “I was there.”
- Others speculate the man was Lazarus, who had been raised from the dead, for he would have been expecting Jesus’ return (the Lord likely spent the night at his home). Further, John 12:10 says that they wanted Lazarus to be put to death. It is speculated that his name was not mentioned because at the time of writing Lazarus was still alive and in danger.

### How can we be strengthened by our review of this night?

- We can rejoice that we are *not* in a blindness of prophecy, like even the apostles were during that time.
  - Compare Luke 18:31-34.
  - Any lack of prophetic understanding we have today is due to lack of study, not lack of revelation.
- We can know that the betrayer has plans for the future. The Devil incarnate is planning a return, with a much more glorious future for himself.
- We can be reminded of the future glory of the Kingdom, in which the Lord will finally be able to drink of the wine, new, in the Kingdom of God.
- We can recognize how easy it would be for us to give up our strong convictions when fear sets in.
- We can rejoice that Jesus said, **not my will, but thine be done**.
- We can determine to be faithful to our Lord both in public and in private.

