

Christ. In ACTS 1 Luke records Jesus ascension up to heaven, and in ACTS 2 Luke records what happened upon the day of **Pentecost** some fifty days after the **Passover** of LUKE 22.

### Luke's Jerusalem Story – The Last Supper

Having now defined **Passover** and **Pentecost**, and seeing their place in Jewish history, we will now return to Luke's story of the Passion Week, and continue to see what happened next. LUKE 22:1 *Now the feast of unleavened bread drew nigh, which is called the **Passover**.* Of the seventy-six times we find the word "**Passover**" in scripture, LUKE 22:1 is the only place "**Passover**" is capitalized. "**Passover**" is capitalized here pointing to Christ Jesus being the fulfillment of **Passover**. The focus is upon Jesus in LUKE 22, and this was Luke way of showing what we read earlier in 1 CORINTHIANS 5:7 *...For even Christ our **passover** is sacrificed for us.* LUKE 22 records the last **Passover**. And Luke new the truth of ROMANS 10:4 *For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth.* Jesus Christ was God's **Passover**, and the types and shadows of fifteen hundred years of observing the **Passover** was now being made reality, and Old Testament scripture was being fulfilled.

The **Passover** story is first told in EXODUS 12, but the story of the **Passover** lamb is introduced in GENESIS 22. The number twenty-two is the number of LIGHT, and when we think of LIGHT we should recall that Jesus is the LIGHT of the world according to JOHN 8:12, and 9:5, Jesus is the LIGHT of men according to JOHN 1:5, and Jesus is the LIGHT of life, which is also noted in JOHN 8:12. So in GENESIS 22 we find LIGHT shed upon the concept introduced in this chapter of the **Passover** lamb. LUKE 22 again records the last **Passover**. GENESIS 22, and LUKE 22 are two chapters shedding LIGHT upon Christ our **Passover**. Recall the story in GENESIS 22 concerns the offering of Isaac, and in this chapter Abraham is a type of God the Father, and Isaac a type of Christ. We will read a couple of verses from GENESIS 22 as a quick refresher. GENESIS 22:7 *And Isaac spake unto Abraham his father, and said, My father: and he said, Here am I, my son. And he said, Behold the fire and the wood: but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?* 8 *And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together.* Verse 8 always brings a tear to my eye, because I, like you, know that this spoke to the time yet very far in the future to Abraham's time when the Lamb God provided was *...the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world...* ...JOHN 1:29. We have mentioned this story before in this study {review page 64 of these notes}, and have noted that in GENESIS 22:8 Abraham by faith saw Calvary, and incidentally Luke is the only write in scripture to use the word Calvary, and he does so in LUKE 23:33. Jesus even made mention of Abraham by faith seeing this day in JOHN 8:56 where He said: *Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw it, and was glad.* And Abraham by faith saw beyond Calvary also, for we read in HEBREWS 11:10 *For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.* Abraham made mention of "a lamb" here in GENESIS 22:8, which we have properly noted to be a reference to Jesus Christ the Lamb of God. And in GENESIS 22:13 we read: *And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold behind him **a ram** caught in a thicket by his horns: and Abraham went and took **the ram**, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the stead of his son.* The lamb mentioned in verses 7 & 8 is different that the ram mentioned in verse 13. The lamb in verses 7 & 8 is number 07716 (say) in The Strong's Hebrew Concordance, and the ram in verse 13 is number 0352 (ayil) in The Strong's Hebrew Concordance, two different Hebrew words. The lamb {07716 (say)} is referenced sixteen times in Old Testament as a "lamb," and again sixteen is the number of LOVE. This same Hebrew word is the one found in EXODUS 12 for the lamb that was used in the **Passover**. Christ is our **Passover**, the Lamb of God, who was sacrificed for us upon the cross of Calvary, as the Apostle Paul noted in 1 CORINTHIANS 5:7. The ram of GENESIS 22:13 {0352 (ayil)} was commonly used for burnt offerings, trespass offerings, and peace offerings under the law of Moses. So once again we note that Abraham here by faith saw "afar off" the cross of Calvary, and the day when God Himself provided the Lamb of God,

who took away the sin of the world! LUKE 22 records the last **Passover**, and shed LIGHT on Christ our **Passover**, the Lamb of God, who was sacrificed for us upon the cross of Calvary.

Here's a bit of Bible trivia. There are eight chapters in the Bible that have more than seventy verses. Three of these chapters are in the Old Testament: NUMBERS 7; 1 CHRONICLES 6; and PSALMS 119. Five of these chapters are in the New Testament: MATTHEW 26; MARK 14; LUKE 1 & 22, and JOHN 6! Three of these chapters, MATTHEW 26; MARK 14; and LUKE 22 all tell the story of the last **Passover**, and the events surrounding the last **Passover**. The Apostle John writes of these same events of the last Passover in six chapters, JOHN 13 through 18! In these long passages of New Testament scripture the Holy Ghost emphasizes to us the importance of realizing, and knowing that our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ is our **Passover**. Jesus Christ, The Lamb of God, our **Passover**, fulfilled the Old Testament type pictured by the **Passover** lamb first introduced in EXODUS 12. The Apostle Peter also wrote about this in 1 PETER 1. 1 PETER 1:18 *Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; 19 But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: 20 Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you, 21 Who by him do believe in God, that raised him up from the dead, and gave him glory; that your faith and hope might be in God.* Thus we find it takes three long chapters in MATTHEW, MARK, and LUKE, and six chapters in JOHN to tell the story of the last **Passover** where Christ our **Passover** was sacrificed for us.

Those of you with a Scofield will find a note of his in MATTHEW 26:20, which gives eleven events on the night of the last **Passover**. Here is an edited version of what Scofield wrote: "The order of events on the night of the **Passover** supper appears to have been: (1) The taking by our Lord and the disciples of their places at the table; (2) the contention who should be greatest; (3) the feet washing; (4) the identification Judas as the traitor; (5) the withdrawal of Judas; (6) the institution of the (Lords) supper; (7) the words of Jesus while still in the room (MATTHEW 26:26-29); (LUKE 22:35-38); (JOHN 13:3-35); (MATTHEW 14:1-31). (8) The words of Jesus between the room and the garden (MATTHEW 26:31-35); (MARK 14:26-31); (JOHN 15; 16; and 17); it seems probable that the high-priestly prayer (JOHN 17:1-26) was uttered after they reached the garden; (9) the agony in the garden; (10) the betrayal and arrest; (11) Jesus before Caiaphas; (12) Peter's denial." {End of quoting Scofield.} Not all of these eleven points are mentioned in LUKE, but as you see there is a great amount of information in scripture concerning the story of the last **Passover**.

So we find that the story of the last **Passover** to be lengthy, and our objective in this study of Luke the man is to make special note of what Luke wrote, and highlight the unique things Luke made mention of in his interviews with the eyewitnesses. Many of Scofield's last **Passover** list of events are also found in LUKE 22, the chapter of LIGHT in LUKE that tells the story of the last **Passover**.

Recall the following facts about Jesus that Luke recorded in LUKE 19:47 & 48. LUKE 19:47 *And he taught daily in the temple. But the chief priests and the scribes and the chief of the people sought to destroy him, 48 And could not find what they might do: for all the people were very attentive to hear him.* Note here that the chief priests, and the scribes, and the chief of the people sought to destroy Jesus. Next let's read some more verses, which also occurred during the Passion Week while Jesus was teaching daily in the temple in LUKE 20. LUKE 20:1 *And it came to pass, that on one of those days, (Have you ever had had "one of those days?" Jesus did too.) as he taught the people in the temple, and preached the gospel, the chief priests and the scribes came upon him with the elders, 2 And spake unto him, saying, Tell us, by what authority doest thou these things? or who is he that gave thee this authority? 3 And he answered and said unto them, I will also ask you one thing; and answer me: 4 The baptism of John, was it from heaven, or of men? 5 And they reasoned with themselves, saying, If we shall say, From heaven; he will say, Why then believed ye him not? 6 But and if we say, Of men; all the people will stone us: for they be persuaded that John was a prophet. 7 And they answered, that they could not tell whence it was. 8 And Jesus said unto them, Neither tell I you by what authority I do these things.* Jesus then proceeded to tell them the parable of the vineyard, which concluded with these words of Jesus. LUKE 20:17 *And he beheld*

them, and said, What is this then that is written, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner? 18 Whosoever shall fall upon that stone shall be broken; but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder. 19 And the chief priests and the scribes the same hour sought to lay hands on him; and they feared the people: for they perceived that he had spoken this parable against them. 20 And they (the chief priests and scribes) watched him, and sent forth spies, which should feign themselves just men, that they might take hold of his words, that so they might deliver him unto the power and authority of the governor. Note here again that not only did the chief priests and scribes not only want to destroy Jesus, but in order to do so they also wished to lay hands on Him, ...that so they might deliver him unto the power and authority of the governor. Then we read in LUKE 22:1 Now the feast of unleavened bread drew nigh, which is called the **Passover**. 2 And the chief priests and scribes sought how they might kill him; for they feared the people. Here we read once again of the chief priests and scribes plan of how they might kill Jesus.

This plan of the chief priests and scribes to destroy Jesus, and to lay their hands upon Him, and kill Him was known by Jesus from the eternities past, and in fact Jesus had already informed His disciples of this plan back in LUKE 9. LUKE 9:18 And it came to pass, as he was alone praying, his disciples were with him: and he asked them, saying, Whom say the people that I am? 19 They answering said, John the Baptist; but some say, Elias; and others say, that one of the old prophets is risen again. 20 He said unto them, But whom say ye that I am? Peter answering said, The Christ of God. 21 And he straitly charged them, and commanded them to tell no man that thing; 22 Saying, The Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be slain, and be raised the third day.

Recall that we have discussed this important point at least two times before in this study, how the twelve disciples were told more than once the facts of LUKE 9:22 that ...The Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be slain, and be raised the third day. We last visited this point in LUKE 18:31 where Jesus was again speaking to His disciples about Himself: Then he took unto him the twelve, and said unto them, Behold, we go up to Jerusalem, and all things that are written by the prophets concerning the Son of man shall be accomplished. 32 For he shall be delivered unto the Gentiles, and shall be mocked, and spitefully entreated, and spitted on: 33 And they shall scourge him, and put him to death: and the third day he shall rise again. 34 And they understood none of these things: and this saying was hid from them, neither knew they the things which were spoken. We mentioned here how verse 34 reveals three things about the twelve disciples of Christ Jesus: 1) the eyes of their understanding was not yet enlightened, nor could they yet fully comprehend these things; 2) this saying was hid from them, or in other words this saying was a puzzle unto them; and 3) they could not even begin to grasp what Jesus meant. This is part of why the Apostle John also wrote in JOHN 20:9 after His resurrection about the disciples, himself included: For as yet they knew not the scripture, that he must rise again from the dead. So we see that yes indeed the twelve were told more than once that ...The Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be slain, and be raised the third day,... but ...they understood none of these things: and this saying was hid from them, neither knew they the things which were spoken.

Back to Luke's story of the last **Passover** in LUKE 22, let's read the next four verses. LUKE 22:3 Then entered Satan into Judas surnamed Iscariot, being of the number of the twelve. 4 And he went his way, and communed with the chief priests and captains, how he might betray him unto them. 5 And they were glad, and covenanted to give him money. 6 And he promised, and sought opportunity to betray him unto them in the absence of the multitude.

We are going to have a careful discussion about Judas Iscariot to clarify who he really was. We are told to search the scripture, and to rightly divide the word of truth, and that is exactly what we are going to spend a few minutes doing in examining Judas Iscariot. Judas Iscariot is mentioned by name by all of the four gospel writers; five times in MATTHEW, three times in MARK; four times in LUKE, eight times in JOHN, and our brother Luke, who was one of the gospel writers also finishes the story of Judas Iscariot in four verses of ACTS 1. Nineteen times in scripture, all in the New

Testament, we read the word “betrayed.” Eighteen (BONDAGE) of these times is a reference to Judas Iscariot. We all know Judas Iscariot “betrayed” Jesus. The Greek word translated “betrayed” in each of the New Testament scriptures is paradidomi {par-ad-id'-o-mee}, number 3860 in The Strong’s Greek Concordance, which literally means to give up, or to give over; to deliver up one to custody, to be judged, condemned, punished, scourged, tormented, put to death! Judas Iscariot “betrayed” our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Each of the gospel writers introduces Judas Iscariot into their narrative noting that Judas Iscariot was the one who betrayed Jesus. MATTHEW 10:4 make the first of Matthew’s five mentions of Judas Iscariot writing: *MATTHEW 10:4 Simon the Canaanite, and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed him.* Mark introduces Judas Iscariot in MARK 3:19 *And Judas Iscariot, which also betrayed him.* Our Gentile brother Luke introduces Judas Iscariot with these words in LUKE 6:16 *...and Judas Iscariot, which also was the traitor.* The Greek word for traitor here is prodotes {prod-ot'-ace}, number 4273 in The Strong’s Greek Concordance, which simply means “betrayed.” The Apostle John clearly, and plainly, tells us who Judas Iscariot was in the following verses of JOHN 6. JOHN 6:64 *But there are some of you that believe not. For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were that believed not, and who should betray him.* ...JOHN 6:70 *Jesus answered them, Have not I chosen you twelve, and one of you is a devil? 71 He spake of Judas Iscariot the son of Simon: for he it was that should betray him, being one of the twelve.* Judas Iscariot was not a believer, thus Judas Iscariot was never saved. Make sure you understand this point: Judas Iscariot was never saved.

JOHN 3:16 is probably one of the most famous New Testament scriptures, which we memorized in our youth during Sunday School. Let’s read the verses surrounding JOHN 3:16, which are Jesus words spoken to Nicodemus. JOHN 13:14 *And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up:* (Jesus Christ the only begotten Son of God, the Son of man, was lifted up on the cross of Calvary, suspended between heaven and earth.) 15 *That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.* 16 *For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.* 17 *For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.* 18 *He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.* Judas Iscariot was one that “...believeth not...” thus was ...condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

While we are here in JOHN 3, I recall something Brother Hill said during one of his last sermons. Brother Hill had spent some time in the hospital when he was diagnosed with inoperable cancer. He asked a nurse if she was a Christian. As I recall the story the nurse answered that she was a Christian, and Brother Hill asked her if she knew JOHN 3:16. She quoted it to Brother Hill, and he asked her, “then what do you have?” She was confused how to answer, so they went over JOHN 3:16 again until the nurse answered “everlasting life.” Many have become believers because of JOHN 3:16, and don’t know that they have “everlasting life.”

The Apostle John concludes JOHN 3 with the words of John the Baptist, and writes in JOHN 3:36 *He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.* The Apostle John was inspired of the Holy Spirit to write the words “everlasting life” seven times, and we just read the first two times. The last time is in JOHN 6:47, which is Jesus words, where he says: *Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life.*

We are still carefully examining scripture concerning Judas Iscariot. Let’s examine what the Apostle Paul wrote in 1 CORINTHIANS 12:3 *Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost.* Judas Iscariot was counted among the twelve Jesus chose as disciples, but not one time in scripture do we ever find Judas Iscariot addressing Jesus as Lord. The one time we find Judas Iscariot addressing Jesus in scripture is in MATTHEW 26. Let’s read starting in MATTHEW 26:20 where Jesus and His twelve disciples were eating the **Passover**. MATTHEW 26:20 *Now when*

the even was come, he sat down with the twelve. 21 And as they did eat, he said, Verily I say unto you, that one of you shall betray me. 22 And they were exceeding sorrowful, and began every one of them to say unto him, Lord, is it I? 23 And he answered and said, He that dippeth his hand with me in the dish, the same shall betray me. 24 The Son of man goeth as it is written of him: but woe unto that man by whom the Son of man is betrayed! it had been good for that man if he had not been born. 25 Then Judas, which betrayed him, answered and said, Master, is it I? He said unto him, Thou hast said. Note in verse 22 ...and began every one of them to say unto him, Lord, is it I? Each one of the disciples as they went around the table said: ...Lord, is it I?... except Judas Iscariot! Note in verse 25 that Judas Iscariot ...answered and said, Master, is it I? Judas Iscariot couldn't answer like the other eleven, and address Christ as Lord, but rather Judas Iscariot addresses Jesus as Master, meaning MASTER Teacher, or Rabbi. We just read in 1 CORINTHIANS 12:3 ...that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost. It is only possible by the power of the Holy Ghost to address Christ Jesus as Lord. Judas Iscariot was not a believer; Judas Iscariot was never saved, thus he could not address Jesus as Lord!

We just searched the scriptures, and found that Judas Iscariot was not a believer, thus Judas Iscariot was never saved. Yet there are those who teach Judas Iscariot lost his salvation. Obviously they don't know how to rightly divide the word of truth, nor do they know the scriptures we just looked at. Our Pastor O'Dorisio frequently references the verses we are about to look at in JOHN 10. In JOHN 10 Jesus is speaking, and He says starting in verse 27: My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: 28 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. 29 My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand. 30 I and my Father are one. Brother Hill used to tell the story of a man arguing with him about this scripture, and the man said to Brother Hill, "yes but you can pluck yourself out of His hand." Brother answered this foolish comment by asking; "are you a man?" Back to Judas Iscariot, who was never saved, who was not a believer, how could he have lost something he never had? The simple truth is no believer can ever lose his/her salvation. People who believe otherwise are not being taught the truth of eternal security. Those who follow such teaching will miss ...the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus... which the Apostle Paul writes about in PHILIPPIANS 3:14. Don't miss God's best!

Those who state Judas Iscariot lost his salvation reference ACTS 1:25 as their proof. Let's continue to rightly divide the word of truth, and read the whole story of Judas Iscariot as found in ACTS 1. ACTS 1:15 *And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples, and said, (the number of names together were about an hundred and twenty,) 16 Men and brethren, this scripture must needs have been fulfilled, which the Holy Ghost by the mouth of David spake before concerning Judas, which was guide to them that took Jesus. 17 For he was numbered with us, and had obtained part of this ministry. 18 Now this man purchased a field with the reward of iniquity; and falling headlong, he burst asunder in the midst, and all his bowels gushed out. 19 And it was known unto all the dwellers at Jerusalem; insomuch as that field is called in their proper tongue, Aceldama, that is to say, The field of blood. 20 For it is written in the book of Psalms, Let his habitation be desolate, and let no man dwell therein: and his bishoprick (the office of a bishop) let another take. 21 Wherefore of these men which have companied with us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, 22 Beginning from the baptism of John, unto that same day that he was taken up from us, must one be ordained to be a witness with us of his resurrection. 23 And they appointed two, Joseph called Barsabas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthias. 24 And they prayed, and said, Thou, Lord, which knowest the hearts of all men, shew whether of these two thou hast chosen, 25 That he may take part of this ministry and apostleship, from which Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place.* The topic of this portion is choosing a replacement for the ministry, and apostleship, which was Judas Iscariot's. Judas Iscariot did not want that place, thus he turned aside from the ministry, and apostleship that was his by betraying Jesus. Transgression here in verse 25 means to turn aside from, or to go past, or to pass over without touching a thing.

Now knowing the full story of Judas Iscariot, let's read again LUKE 22:3-6. LUKE 22:3 *Then entered Satan into Judas surnamed Iscariot, being of the number of the twelve. 4 And he went his way, and communed with the chief priests and captains, how he might betray him unto them. 5 And they were glad, and covenanted to give him money. 6 And he promised, and sought opportunity to betray him unto them in the absence of the multitude.* We will read of this opportunity later in LUKE 22.

Luke's story of the last **Passover** continues telling about the preparation of the last **Passover**. LUKE 22:7 *Then came the day of unleavened bread, when the **passover** must be killed. 8 And he sent Peter and John, saying, Go and prepare us the **passover**, that we may eat. 9 And they said unto him, Where wilt thou that we prepare? 10 And he said unto them, Behold, when ye are entered into the city, there shall a man meet you, bearing a pitcher of water; follow him into the house where he entereth in. 11 And ye shall say unto the goodman of the house, The Master saith unto thee, Where is the guestchamber, where I shall eat the **passover** with my disciples? 12 And he shall shew you a large upper room furnished: there make ready. 13 And they went, and found as he had said unto them: and they made ready the **passover**.*

For fifteen hundred years the children of Israel had been celebrating the **Passover**, which pointed to this time of the last **Passover**. We read in LUKE 22:15 that Jesus said unto His disciples: *With desire I have desired to eat this **passover** with you before I suffer.* Jesus had since the eternities past been planning for this last **Passover**, and knew every detail concerning the preparation of the last **Passover**, for as REVELATION 13:8 informs us, He was ...*the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.* Recall for a moment what we read in PSALMS 37:23 *The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way.* We just read the steps ordered of Peter, and John by Jesus concerning where the last **Passover** would take place. Jesus was very explicit in His instructions to Peter, and John, so let this information soak in for a minute. Jesus said: ...*Behold, when ye are entered into the city, there shall a man meet you, bearing a pitcher of water; follow him into the house where he entereth in.* All Peter and John had to do was first go into the city of Jerusalem, and once they got there a certain man would meet them; they didn't have to go looking for this man, and when this man met them he obviously knew who they were whether they knew who he was or not, and this man would be bearing a pitcher of life sustaining water. How many of you are here because a man once met you bearing the good news of the gospel? And you followed this man to the house of God. This is a thought worth pondering. For Peter and John, Jesus told them to ...*say unto the goodman of the house, The Master saith unto thee, Where is the guestchamber, where I shall eat the **passover** with my disciples?* Obviously this owner of the house knew Jesus was the Master, and he showed Peter and John a large upper room already furnished where they could make ready the **Passover**. Everything Jesus told Peter and John was exactly as He had said down to the last detail. LUKE 22:13 *And they went, and found as he had said unto them: and they made ready the **passover**.*

We shouldn't be shocked that every word Jesus spoke was true, and that everything He said came to pass. Jesus said in JOHN 14:6 *...I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.* Paul wrote in EPHESIANS 4:21 *...the truth is in Jesus!* You have probably heard, and read these scriptures a hundred times at least, but have you truly let the truth of these scriptures speak to your heart? We read in TITUS 1:2 *...God, that cannot lie,*... and in HEBREWS 6:18 that *...it was impossible for God to lie.* It was impossible for Jesus to lie, and He always spoke the truth; He was full of grace and truth! LUKE 22:13 *And they went, and found as he had said unto them: and they made ready the **passover**.*

And before moving on here in LUKE 22, also notice the wisdom of Christ Jesus here as He described in detail where Peter and John were to prepare the **Passover**. Yet no mention is given of whose house it was, nor the address. Had this information been divulged further, this house would still be a tourist trap in Jerusalem. Just be thankful that the Lord knows the hearts of all men. Solomon acknowledged this in a prayer of his in 1 KINGS 8, where he said in verse 39: *...(for thou, even thou only, knowest the hearts of all the children of men;)*. Jesus was still teaching His disciples that they could trust him, and that nothing is hid from Him. He is not interested in addresses, or how

much you have or don't have. In fact He is only interested in you, in people who will trust Him. PSALMS 103:14 *For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust.* Jesus Christ is in the people business, the saving people business, thus He knows people, and what they are doing, and what they will do, and where they will be. The homeowner in LUKE 22 welcomed Jesus, and His disciples into his house.

The next few verses in LUKE 22 is a quick summary of the last supper, which further details are found in JOHN 13 and 14. LUKE 22:14 *And when the hour was come, he sat down, and the twelve apostles with him. 15 And he said unto them, With desire I have desired to eat this **passover** with you before I suffer: 16 For I say unto you, I will not any more eat thereof, until it be fulfilled in the kingdom of God. 17 And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and said, Take this, and divide it among yourselves: 18 For I say unto you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine, until the kingdom of God shall come. 19 And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me. 20 Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you.*

Luke mentions three cups in this 22<sup>nd</sup> chapter of LUKE, and the first one is found in verse 17 & 18. LUKE 22:17 *And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and said, Take this, and divide it among yourselves: 18 For I say unto you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine, until the kingdom of God shall come.* Each of the three cups mention in LUKE 22 tells a different story, which we will discuss in order. This first cup is a cup of joy that was divided among His disciples. Note that Jesus Himself did not drink of this cup, but pointed to the time when He would, saying *...I will not drink of the fruit of the vine, until the kingdom of God shall come.* Think about this for a moment, at this moment Jesus was facing sorrow, and death, which lay before Him, but also on His mind was the time yet future when He too will enjoy the joys of the kingdom of God. At this yet future point in time He will have His wife, the Bride of Christ reigning with Him. We discussed this at length when we studied HEBREWS 12:1 & 2, and HEBREWS 12:2 again reads: *Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.* Christ's Bride was the joy that was set before Him as He endured the cross for her, for us! When Jesus says in LUKE 22:18 *...I will not drink of the fruit of the vine, until the kingdom of God shall come...* He was thinking of the joy that will be His in the kingdom of God to have His wife with Him also enjoying the fruit of the vine! Luke, a follower of the Apostle Paul, and himself a racecourse running bridal Saint, was the only gospel writer to mention this cup of joy, for the Holy Ghost had revealed unto him the facts of the joy that was set before Christ that night of the **Passover** as He faced the cross the next day!

The second cup of the three Luke mentions in LUKE 22 is found in verses 19 & 20, which again says: *And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me. 20 Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you.* This second cup of the three Luke mentions in LUKE 22 is the cup of suffering and death, which we are to remember, and observe, *...This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you...* LUKE 22:20.

Our beloved Apostle Paul had written both 1 and 2 CORINTHIANS during his third missionary journey, thus by the time Luke got to interview Peter and/or John concerning this Last Supper, Luke had learned the Apostle Paul's teaching upon this subject of this second cup, which is found in 1 CORINTHIANS 11, which we will also now examine. 1 CORINTHIANS 11:23 *For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread: 24 And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. 25 After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. 26 For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come.* The Lord had instructed our Apostle Paul the importance of this memorial a few years after this last **Passover** supper, which we are examining in LUKE 22. And these instructions found in 1 CORINTHIANS 11 seem simple enough. We know the

children of Israel couldn't even keep the **Passover** every year as instructed, so how long do you think it was before the taking of the Lord's supper got all messed up? Not too long, thus we have Paul writing about it to the Corinthians in 1 CORINTHIANS 10 & 11. Their problem in Corinth was that they forgot what it was they were to remember. Somewhere along the way those at Corinth had focused upon the communion, and their own appetites, even to the point of gluttony, and drunkenness, and had forgot the main reason for partaking in the Lord's supper, which was to bring to remembrance why Christ suffered at Calvary. They focused upon their own selves more than upon the Lord! (We will find here in a few minutes that Jesus disciples also focused upon their own selves more than upon the Lord.) So Paul had asked the Crointhians in 1 CORINTHIANS 10:16 *The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?* The words of Jesus from LUKE 22:19 hadn't yet clicked in their minds: *...this do in remembrance of me.* These are the very words written upon the table where we take communion on the first Sunday of every month: *...this do in remembrance of me.*

Now let's make the proper connection ourselves as we remember the purpose of taking the Lord's supper. The Old Testament memorial of **Passover** pointed forward in time to Calvary, where Christ our **Passover** was sacrificed for us (1 CORINTHIANS 5:7). While on the cross the finger of God rent the veil of the temple in the midst, opening to us by the blood of Jesus entrance unto the holies of holies, the throne of grace, where we can boldly come, and obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need! {See HEBREWS 4:16.} The New Testament memorial of Calvary is the Lord's supper, instituted by *...the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread: And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me...* 1 CORINTHIANS 11:23-25. It is Christ's desire for all believers to connect back to Calvary, to the cross of Calvary, and keep the Lord's supper as a permanent memorial of Calvary. The Lord instructs each believer: *...this do in remembrance of me.* We are too thus remember that the Lord's supper's purpose, given of God, was to keep that unspeakable sacrifice of Christ for our sins, fresh in our minds, in our thoughts, in our midst, and keep it from becoming neglected or common place, or a distant memory. The Lord's supper is a permanent memorial of the cross of Calvary; a memorial of Christ, and His death, to whom we show remembrance, thankfulness, love and honor till He comes. Partaking of the Lord's supper also connects us back to the last **Passover** where Jesus instituted this memorial.

Think of what it would be like to have been with Jesus as he instituted this memorial. In partaking of the Lord's supper we are there! We are then in communion with Him. One more thought here as a racecourse running bridal Saint; don't you daily remember, and are you not daily thankful for the unspeakable sacrifice of Christ for our sins? That is just the beginning of: *In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you...* ...1 THESSALONIANS 5:18. The Lamb's wife has the closest communion with Christ on a full time daily basis, and is constantly thankful in her remembrance of the benefits we have in Christ Jesus because of the cross of Calvary upon which Christ Jesus died for our sins!

With these thoughts in mind, how shall we come to the Lord's supper? In remembrance of *...Christ, that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us...* ROMANS 8:34. One who does not know Christ certainly can not remember Him, thus this memorial is only for the believer, those who knows Christ as his (or her) own personal Saviour. The Apostle Paul tells us in 1 CORINTHIANS 11:28 that we are to examine ourselves as we partake of the Lord's supper. 1 CORINTHIANS 11:28 *But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup.* Our focus, in other words, is to be upon Christ, without whom we can do nothing. Brother Hill noted that "the only way any of us can come to the Lord's table is by the grace of God." He went on to say: "there ought to be a holy hush about the person who comes to the Lord's table in the proper way, with a reverence, and an awareness of what we are about." "It is a memorial of redeeming grace." COLOSSIANS 1:14 tells

us: *...we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:...* . There is nothing magical in the communion, nor is there anything in the Lord's supper that will fill or sustain the physical body, or make you strong, however we can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth us. It is upon Him, only Him, Christ Jesus our Lord and Saviour, whom we focus during the Lord's supper!

And finally how shall we leave the Lord's table? Satisfied in Him. Focused upon Him. Rejoicing in His fellowship. Proclaiming His death until He comes. Looking for His soon coming, Loving His appearing, loving one another, and rejoicing evermore. *Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift...* 2 CORINTHIANS 9:15.

We will jump ahead in LUKE 22 for a moment, and see where the third cup of three is mentioned in this chapter. LUKE 22:42 is the scene of this third cup, where Jesus was in the garden of the Mount of Olives praying, and He said: *...Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done.* This cup is the cup of God's will. This is a cup of suffering and death, and while as a man, Jesus would love to have it removed, He was willing to drink from this cup in obedience to His Father's will. Scofield commented on this third cup in his footnotes on MATTHEW 26:39, and noted what Jesus said in JOHN 10:17 & 18 -- *Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again. 18 No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father.* Scofield here noted: In view of these verses Jesus "...could have been in no fear of an unwilling death. The value of the account of the agony in the Garden is in the evidence it affords that He knew fully what the agony of the cross would mean when His soul was made an offering for sin. ...Knowing the cost to the utmost, he voluntarily paid it." {End of quoting Scofield.} No doubt we will comment further upon this third cup when we again get to it again later in LUKE 22.

One more thing concerning the cross before we continue examining the scriptures of LUKE 22. The word "cross" is found twenty-eight times in scripture, and twenty-eight is the number pointing to ETERNAL LIFE. The phrase "eternal life" is found twenty-six times in scripture, and twenty-six is the number associated with the GOSPEL, and the GOOD NEWS of the gospel. 1 JOHN 5:11 sums it up this way: *And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.*

LUKE 22:21 *But, behold, the hand of him that betrayeth me is with me on the table. 22 And truly the Son of man goeth, as it was determined: but woe unto that man by whom he is betrayed! 23 And they began to enquire among themselves, which of them it was that should do this thing.* We have already discussed Judas Iscariot, who was the one of the twelve disciples of Jesus that betrayed Jesus. PSALMS 41:9 is a commentary on Judas, which reads: *Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up his heel against me.* Luke, who pictures Christ as the Man, shows the loving kindness of Jesus character as a Man here by His not singling Judas out by name.

Luke then changes the narrative pointing out a strife here between the twelve. And remember Luke is writing this from eyewitness accounts, so it was one of the twelve, perhaps Peter, or John, who told Luke what we are about to read. LUKE 22:24 *And there was also a strife among them, which of them should be accounted the greatest.* A very interesting Greek word is translated "strife" here. The Greek word found only this one time in scripture is philoneikia {fil-on-i-kee'-ah}, number 5379 in The Strong's Greek Concordance, which literally means: the love of strife, which signifies eagerness to contend. Brother Hawkins properly calls this "a disturbing situation," which we will now discuss in some detail, as there is plenty of food for thought in this verse of LUKE 22:24.

Actually this very same topic had come up previously in LUKE 9. LUKE 9:46 *Then there arose a reasoning among them, which of them should be greatest. 47 And Jesus, perceiving the thought of their heart, took a child, and set him by him, 48 And said unto them, Whosoever shall receive this child in my name receiveth me: and whosoever shall receive me receiveth him that sent me: for he that is least among you all, the same shall be great.* Jesus was here giving His disciples a

picture of the heart attitude that is required to even be eligible to be considered great. The attitude was just the opposite of that exhibited by His disciples. The heart attitude of those who will be considered greatest in the kingdom of God will be an attitude of true humility, which was found in Christ, and explained by the Apostle Paul in PHILIPPIANS 2. PHILIPPIANS 2:5 *Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: 7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, (bond servant in the Greek) and was made in the likeness of men: 8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.* The bond servant is described in EXODUS 21 and DEUTERONOMY 15, noting how the Hebrew servant was to be freed from his servitude in the seventh year. Emphasis then was given to the one exception allowed, and that being if the servant stated that he did not wish to be free because he loved his master, his wife and his children. Once this was stated by the slave, the master of the servant was to then take an awl, and thrust the ear of the servant through the door post, and that servant was then to be his bond servant forever. Note that the bond servant willingly gave his ear unto his master. Jesus Christ Himself gave His ear unto God the Father and took upon Himself the form of a bond servant in PHILIPPIANS 2:7. To show that Jesus was bond servant unto His Father note what is said in JOHN 8:29 *And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him.* Jesus in giving His ear unto God the Father demonstrates what it takes to be a full overcomer. All full overcomers too will, like the bond servant, give their ear unto Christ. *He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.* Brother Copley noted that “great prominence is given to a listening ear. If we put our ears up to God’s will and let Him bore them thru with the awl of truth, we will learn the deep secrets of the Lord.” Are you willing to give your ear to Him? This is true humility. 2 TIMOTHY 2:12 informs us: *If we suffer, (with Christ) we shall also reign with him.* Those that reign with Christ as His Bride truly will be accounted the greatest, but their focus was, and is always upon Christ, and not upon themselves, and they have open ears ready to receive the truth. *The truth is in Jesus...* EPHESIANS 4:21.

Let’s now bring our attention back to considering the scene here in LUKE 22:24 that occurred at the Last Supper. The focus of attention should have been Christ Jesus, and He had plenty to say unto them this night as we have already noted. All of what Jesus had to say to His disciples this night isn’t recorded in LUKE 22, and JOHN 13 and 14 gives more details on what Jesus said as we also previously have noted. Luke perhaps was somewhat shocked when one of the eyewitness disciples told him that *...there was also a strife among them, which of them should be accounted the greatest...* ...LUKE 22:24. Even though the epistle unto the COLOSSIANS had not yet been written, no doubt the Apostle Paul and Luke had spent hours discussing some of the facts that we will now look at in COLOSSIANS 1. In COLOSSIANS 1:15 Paul is writing about Christ Jesus. COLOSSIANS 1:15 *Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: 16 For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: 17 And he is before all things, and by him all things consist. 18 And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.* Knowing the truth of Christ Jesus, and how that *...by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.* Is there any question in your mind who *...should be accounted the greatest...* in LUKE 22:24 of those in attendance at the Last Supper? The correct answer is no, because the One who created all things, and the One by whom all things consist, and the One who is before all things was sitting at the table with them.

As we discuss this, realize that Jesus is the great **I AM**. We read of Him several times in GENESIS appearing to Abraham even before he was called Abraham. GENESIS 15:1 *After these things the word of the LORD came unto Abram in a vision, saying, Fear not, Abram: I am thy shield, and thy exceeding great reward.* GENESIS 15:7 *And he said unto him, I am the LORD that brought*

*thee out of Ur of the Chaldees, to give thee this land to inherit it. GENESIS 17:1 And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect. Remember the story of the burning bush in EXODUS 3. We read that it was the “angel of the Lord” who appeared unto Moses at this time, and often times in scripture when we read of the “angel of the Lord,” it is Jesus Christ Himself who is making such an appearance. So we read in EXODUS 3:6 Moreover he said, I am the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. And Moses hid his face; for he was afraid to look upon God. We read in EXODUS 3:13 And Moses said unto God, Behold, when I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them, The God of your fathers hath sent me unto you; and they shall say to me, What is his name? what shall I say unto them? 14 And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you. 15 And God said moreover unto Moses, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath sent me unto you: this is my name for ever, and this is my memorial unto all generations.* There is no way we could cover all of the hundreds of “**I am**” statements made by our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ throughout all scripture, but you can research them out on your own. The Apostle John would later write in REVELATION 1:8 these “**I am**” words of Jesus: *I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.* Again in REVELATION 1:11 Jesus said: *...I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last:...* . Again Jesus is speaking in REVELATION 21:6 *...I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end.* And in REVELATION 22:13 Jesus once again said: *I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.* Brother Hill once preached a sermon about this noting that when Jesus says He is “Alpha and Omega,” He is really saying: “**I am** the first letter of the alphabet, and **I am** the last letter of the alphabet, and every letter in between. **I am** the first number, and the last number, and everything in between.” Every word, every note, every letter, every book, every document that was ever written, should all remind us of Jesus. He is every letter in The Word of God. He is The Word of God. He is the great “**I am**.”

Back to the night of the Last Supper, it should have been obvious to Jesus disciples after three and a half years of being with Jesus who *...should be accounted the greatest.* Had Jesus disciples not learned anything of Him who should have been accounted the greatest? And how was it that His disciples had lost focus upon who He was? We read in 2 CORINTHIANS 10:12 the Apostle Paul’s Holy Ghost inspired words: *For we dare not make ourselves of the number, or compare ourselves with some that commend themselves: but they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise.* This defines Jesus disciples on the night of the Last Supper.

So let’s consider our own selves for a few moments. Who has your attention? What has your attention? Where is your focus? What are you looking at? What are you looking for? Who are you looking for? How is it with you? What’s taking place in the caverns of your mind? And what is going on in your own heart? These are questions only you can answer, and each and everyone one of us needs to take this kind of inventory for ourselves. Jesus said in MATTHEW 18:20 *For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.* We open every service I have ever attended here at Living Waters Tabernacle with prayer in Jesus name. Do you realize that when we are gathered together in Jesus name that He is in our midst? Let us then focus upon HIM.

One more thought about LUKE 22:24 *And there was also a strife among them, which of them should be accounted the greatest.* The phrase “the greatest” is found seventeen times in scripture. Seventeen is the number pointing to VICTORY IN CHRIST JESUS, and as such it also answers the question of *...which of them should be accounted the greatest.* The answer we know is Christ Jesus. Jesus Himself had already spent much time explaining to His disciples the facts of *...which of them should be accounted the greatest,* and he will once again do so here in LUKE 22. Then again after His resurrection Jesus will once again deal with His disciples about *...which of them should be accounted the greatest.* We find this in JOHN 21 where seven of the remaining disciples went

fishing one last time with Peter, and I think we are all familiar with the story of how Jesus three times in JOHN 21 asked Peter, lovest thou me? Jesus had asked Peter in essence, do you love me more than your friends? More than your boat? More than fishing? More than what I have called you to do? Do you love me above all else? And then in JOHN 21:19 Jesus told Peter to “Follow me.” Peter then began a discussion about the Apostle John, and in JOHN 21:21 we read: *Peter seeing him (John) saith to Jesus, Lord, and what shall this man do?* 22 *Jesus saith unto him, If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee? follow thou me.* Peter finally got it, and realized ...*which of them should be accounted the greatest...* and it was the Lord Jesus Christ Himself, but it took the power of the Holy Ghost to bring Peter to that place he was chosen to have! Our Brother Luke spent several chapters in ACTS describing how Peter followed Christ, but it took the power of the Holy Ghost to accomplish this in Peter’s life.

Here is how Jesus kindly addressed His disciples at the Last Supper after they said in LUKE 22:24 *And there was also a strife among them, which of them should be accounted the greatest.* LUKE 22:25 *And he said unto them, The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and they that exercise authority upon them are called benefactors.* 26 *But ye shall not be so: but he that is greatest among you, let him be as the younger; and he that is chief, as he that doth serve.* 27 *For whether is greater, he that sitteth at meat, or he that serveth? is not he that sitteth at meat? but I am among you as he that serveth.*

The first thing we should notice here is Jesus gracious words, and that Jesus didn’t reprimand His disciples here, though He may have been exasperated with their actions at this time. The things His disciples were focused upon were not heavenly things, so Jesus, the Master Teacher, got them to focus upon heavenly things, and He does so by first giving examples of things of the world, which they could easily understand. Jesus starts out in verse 25 saying: *The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and they that exercise authority upon them are called benefactors.* The Greek word for benefactor is only found this one time in scripture, and means: a title of honour, conferred on those such as had done their country service, and upon princes. Jesus is pointing out that those who are in places of authority over others are the benefactors and receive the vain benefits of their office, such as compliments or flattery. But in verse 26 Jesus tells His disciples: *But ye shall not be so: but he that is greatest among you, let him be as the younger; and he that is chief, as he that doth serve.* God’s way are the opposite of man’s ways. Jesus was instructing His disciples that God’s kingdom is established upon different principles than those of the world. The same night of the Lord Supper, as they began that evening, Jesus had washed His disciples feet, and in one respect this was an example of what He was now teaching them. We read this in JOHN 13:12 *So after he had washed their feet, and had taken his garments, and was set down again, he said unto them, Know ye what I have done to you?* 13 *Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am.* 14 *If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another’s feet.* 15 *For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you.* 16 *Verily, verily, I say unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him.* 17 *If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them.* This then was the humble heart attitude that the Lord was teaching His disciples about, but it took the power of the Holy Ghost for them to fully receive this teaching on how to serve.

Let’s examine this thought a little further. We just read LUKE 22:26 *But ye shall not be so: but he that is greatest among you, let him be as the younger; and he that is chief, as he that doth serve.* 27 *For whether is greater, he that sitteth at meat, or he that serveth? is not he that sitteth at meat? but I am among you as he that serveth.* The Greek word for “serve,” and “serveth” is the same: diakoneo {dee-ak-on-eh'-o}, which is number 1247 in The Strong’s Greek Concordance. Simply stated the meaning of diakoneo {dee-ak-on-eh'-o} is to minister, also to render any kind of service. This is the same Greek word found in ACTS 6:2, which states this: *Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, It is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables.* It was at that time when the seven men full of the Holy Ghost were chosen to serve tables, and Philip the evangelist, and Stephen were the two prominent among this group.

Obviously by this time Peter, and John, and the rest of the twelve were heavily involved in their Holy Ghost inspired ministry, which was now expounding to the Jews the word of God. Our Brother in the Lord, Luke explained this powerful ministry of the Kingdom Apostles in ACTS chapter 1-12. The point of reviewing this is to emphasize that after Pentecost, after being filled with the Holy Ghost, Peter, and John, and the rest of the twelve were fully equipped to “serve” the Lord in the capacity that the Lord Jesus Christ Himself had chosen for them to do. They were no longer concerned with “which of them should be accounted the greatest.” Recall in both MATTHEW 4:19, and in MARK 1:17 Jesus had said unto His disciples *...Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.* Then after His resurrection in JOHN 21 Jesus specifically told Peter to “Feed my lambs,” and twice to “Feed my sheep” {see JOHN 21:15-17.} Once they were filled with the Holy Ghost, by the power, and enabling of the Holy Ghost, the word of God was preached by these Apostle daily, and ACTS 2:47 informs us: *...And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.* Study ACTS 2 out further on your own, and see for yourself how the Apostle fully learned how to “serve!”

There is another important, and related thought found in the portion of scripture we read above in JOHN 13, so let’s read this again. JOHN 13:12 *So after he had washed their feet, and had taken his garments, and was set down again, he said unto them, Know ye what I have done to you? 13 Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am. 14 If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another’s feet. 15 For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you. 16 Verily, verily, I say unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him. 17 If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them.*

The thought we are going to spend a few moments examining is the thought of sanctification. Sanctification in simplest terms means a separation to God. When Jesus washed His disciples feet at the last supper, the lesson He was teaching them wasn’t that they had dirty feet, but rather His teaching was that in the world there are many defilements out there in the world that can pollute ones walk with the Lord. Later that night of the last supper Jesus prayed the true Lord’s prayer, found in JOHN 17. And while in the garden that night Jesus prayed for His disciples, and He prayed for us too. We read in JOHN 17:15 *I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil. 16 They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. 17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.* Note here in verse 17 that Jesus prays that they should be separated unto God from the evil in the world, and then He states how this can happen: *...through thy truth: thy word is truth.* Two verses later in JOHN 17:19 Jesus prays: *And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth.* How then is one sanctified, that is separated unto God? The answer we have just read, and that is through the truth, and the truth is a reference to The Word of God, who is Jesus! Our beloved Apostle Paul wrote specifically how the Bride of Christ is sanctified in EPHESIANS 5, and here is what he wrote there. EPHESIANS 5:25 *Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; (Christ gave Himself for Her, the Bride of Christ) 26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it (her) with the washing of water by the word, 27 That he might present it (her) to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it (she) should be holy and without blemish.* How is the Bride of Christ sanctified? It takes the leading and guiding of the Holy Ghost working in us God’s perfect will, to separate us from everything as Christ Jesus Himself was separated, and it takes the power of the Holy Ghost working in us by the washing of water by the Word of God to complete this sanctification process, to the point that His wife hath made herself ready! It was our beloved Apostle Paul who explained to us that “the God of peace” actually is the Holy Ghost, so Paul wrote in 1 THESSALONIANS 5:23 *And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.* Even Peter wrote about sanctification in 1 PETER 3:15 *But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts.* It was the Holy Ghost who enabled Peter to become the outstanding Kingdom Apostle he became. It was the Holy Ghost who enabled the Apostle Paul to be the Apostle

unto the Gentiles, and reveal the deeper truths of the Bride of Christ, some of which we just read about. It will be the Holy Ghost working in our own hearts, that washes us with the Word of God, and will make us ready to be the Bride of Christ! On that long journey in GENESIS 24 back to Isaac, who was it that informed Rebekah all about her husband to be? Abraham's servant, a type of the Holy Ghost, was the one who informed Rebekah all about Isaac, and by the time she met him for the first time, she already knew him because Eliezer had revealed unto her all about Isaac, and she was ready to be Isaac wife because of the words of Eliezer, who had prepared her for that moment.

Next back in LUKE 22 on the night of the last supper, we read in LUKE 22:28 *Ye are they which have continued with me in my temptations. 29 And I appoint unto you a kingdom, as my Father hath appointed unto me; 30 That ye may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.* This then is the place that the twelve Apostles of the Lamb will have after Jesus comes.

LUKE 22:31 *And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: 32 But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren. 33 And he said unto him, Lord, I am ready to go with thee, both into prison, and to death. 34 And he said, I tell thee, Peter, the cock shall not crow this day, before that thou shalt thrice deny that thou knowest me.*

Let's examine the thought of verse 31 a little closer, which are words spoken directly to Peter from the Lord Jesus Christ: *...Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat.* We must understand that Peter was a believer, and already a leader among Jesus disciples. Satan too understood this, and as Brother Hawkins here noted: "we are given some insight into the spirit world as we read: "Satan hath desired to have you." Nothing has changed since the days of Job, when Satan had to get God's permission to touch one of His own. We can be encouraged that our arch enemy can go no further than God allows, but we must realize that in both cases, God granted Satan permission without consulting the principals involved. In Luke we are told that Satan was going to "sift you as wheat," and we can expect no less in our own lives, as God will use Satan as an instrument to separate the flesh from the spirit." {End of quoting Brother Hawkins for now.} None of us would want to face what Job faced, and none of us would want to face what Peter would face in the next 96 hours of his life either.

As we read Luke's account of Jesus predicting Peter's thrice denial of Jesus before the cock would crow, realize that all four-gospel writers mentioned this event. Luke got his information by interviewing eyewitness as we have many times noted before, which information is told us in LUKE 1:1-4. So which of the eleven Apostles told Luke this account? Peter's three times denying Christ that night was a highlight/lowlight of Peter's life, something he would never forget, and this was certainly a turning point for him. Perhaps Luke had the opportunity to interview several of the Kingdom Apostles about this event, but in the end I believe it was Peter who gave Luke the details we read in LUKE 22. The words of the Lord Jesus Christ in verse 32 resonated loudest in Peter's heart, and not necessarily right then and there during the last supper, but in the days following as Peter pondered long and hard about the events that happened later that night, and the next early morning. No doubt it was comforting for Peter to remember Jesus words spoken only to him: *But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren...* LUKE 22:32!

There are four statements Jesus told Peter in verse 32. The first statement Jesus told Peter was *...But I have prayed for thee.* The reason Jesus told Peter this was because of what Jesus had said in verse 31 *...Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat.* None of us are a match for Satan, but always remember this: *...greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world...* 1 JOHN 4:4. Do you realize as a believer that we have the very same benefit that Peter did when Jesus told him *...But I have prayed for thee?* The Apostle Paul tells us in ROMANS 8:34 *It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.* Previously in ROMANS 8:26 & 27 Paul wrote: *Likewise*

*the Spirit (the Holy Spirit) also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit (the Holy Spirit) Himself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. 27 And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.* He that searcheth the hearts is the Lord Jesus Christ Himself as He stated in REVELATION 2:23 *...and all the churches shall know that I am he which searcheth the reins and hearts: and I will give unto every one of you according to your works.* Here Jesus is quoting Himself from JEREMIAH 17:10 *I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.* The encouragement we find above in ROMANS 8:26 & 27 is to pray, and to pray in in the Spirit thus allowing the Holy Ghost to use our tongues to make our requests, which otherwise couldn't be made known unto God, because we can't always find the words to express our requests, but the Holy Ghost can. The Apostle Paul wrote much about prayer, and praying, and he wrote in his very first epistle of 1 THESSALONIANS 5:17 for us to: *Pray without ceasing.* That doesn't mean we have to be on our knees constantly, but rather no matter where we are, or what we are doing there should be prayer on our lips, and in our heart. The Apostle Paul wrote of the warfare of the believer in EPHESIANS 6:10-18, and Brother Hill even wrote a tract on this very same portion of scripture, which can also be found our Living Waters Tabernacle website. This portion of scripture in EPHESIANS 6:10-18 underlines, and emphasizes the importance of prayer, especially in the lives of full overcomers, who never could have become a full overcomer with out *...Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints...* ...EPHESIANS 6:18.

LUKE 22:32 *But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.* Let's look at the second statement Jesus told Peter, which is *...that thy faith fail not.* Jesus knew that Peter was about to face a very tough 96 hours, probably the toughest time of his life, so Jesus was praying for Peter that his faith may not utterly fail! After these 96 hours Jesus would be raised from the dead, but Peter and the other disciples didn't yet know this, and the Apostle John explained this in JOHN 20:9 *For as yet they knew not the scripture, that he must rise again from the dead.* Back in LUKE 22 Jesus knew that Peter would be the leader among the Apostles after Jesus death, so the attack Peter faced from Satan would be the greatest for Peter out of all the Apostles. One verse earlier in LUKE 22:31 Jesus had told Peter: *...Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat.* Jesus words of encouragement to Peter in LUKE 22:32 were: *But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not.* Remember at this time in his life, Peter had not yet been filled with the Holy Ghost because the Holy Ghost was not yet given, but Peter was full of the bravado of Peter, which is why Peter says in LUKE 22:33 *...Lord, I am ready to go with thee, both into prison, and to death.* The truth was Peter was in no way, shape, or form yet ready at this time to face prison, or death, nor to go on with the Lord as he thought. At this point in time Peter did not have full overcoming faith, the kind of faith that the Old Testament worthies of faith demonstrated in HEBREWS 11. So it was good encouragement for Peter as he went through these next 96 hours to remember how Jesus told him *...I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not.* We read in JOB 23:10 the words of Job: *But he knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold.* The chaff must be blown away, but genuine faith will stand as gold as Job declared.

The third point Jesus makes to Peter in LUKE 22:32 is found in this statement: *...and when thou art converted.* The word "converted" here is not a reference to a sinner being converted, for as we have previously noted, Peter was already saved. The word "converted" here means: to turn around, to bring back, or to come back. Here it means that the Lord was praying that Peter would be turned from going his own way after having denied Jesus.

The fourth point of Jesus prayer for Peter mentioned in LUKE 22:32 was that after turning back Peter would be the one to *...strengthen thy brethren.* We mentioned earlier how Jesus dealt with Peter in JOHN 21, and after that Luke documents in ACTS 1-12 how that Peter was the one of the remaining eleven disciples of Jesus, who encouraged the rest of the Apostles, strengthened them, to

continuing following the Lord. The word “strengthen” here is an important word, and it comes from the Greek word *sterizo* {stay-rid'-zo}, number 4741 in The Strong's Greek Concordance, which means: to stablish, to strengthen, to make firm, to make stable, to establish, to place firmly, to set fast, and to fix. Here in LUKE 22:32 Peter was instructed by the Lord Jesus to ...*strengthen thy brethren*. Peter used this same word *sterizo* {stay-rid'-zo} in 1 PETER 5:10 where it is translated “stablish.” 1 PETER 5:10 *But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you.* After the day of Pentecost when Peter was filled with the Holy Ghost, Luke records how Peter was prominent among the Kingdom Apostles. Note what Luke wrote in ACTS 5:12 *And by the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people; (and they were all with one accord in Solomon's porch. 13 And of the rest durst no man join himself to them: but the people magnified them. 14 And believers were the more added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women.) 15 Insomuch that they brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and couches, that at the least the shadow of Peter passing by might overshadow some of them. 16 There came also a multitude out of the cities round about unto Jerusalem, bringing sick folks, and them which were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed every one.* Obviously Jesus prayer for Peter of LUKE 22:32 to ...*strengthen thy brethren*... was exceedingly above all we could think or imagine answered to the fullest.

Back to the night of the last **Passover**, let's read again these four verses in LUKE, where we are told the story of Jesus predicting Peter's denial. LUKE 22:31 *And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: 32 But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren. 33 And he said unto him, Lord, I am ready to go with thee, both into prison, and to death. 34 And he said, I tell thee, Peter, the cock shall not crow this day, before that thou shalt thrice deny that thou knowest me.* We will now briefly look at verses 33 and 34. Luke had singled out Peter in his gospel, probably because Peter was the one who told Luke of this event, however we find that Matthew recorded some other facts that Luke didn't mention. MATTHEW 26:33 *Peter answered and said unto him, Though all men shall be offended because of thee, yet will I never be offended. 34 Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, That this night, before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice. 35 Peter said unto him, Though I should die with thee, yet will I not deny thee. Likewise also said all the disciples.* Note that Peter wasn't alone in saying he wouldn't deny Jesus, for Matthew tells us ...*Likewise also said all the disciples*. When we get to verses 54 through 62 of LUKE 22 we will find how Peter did deny the Lord three distinct times before the crowing of the rooster early the next morning. The details of how this affected Peter also indicate that it was Peter who told Luke of these events on the night of the last **Passover**. So it had to have been Peter who told Luke what we just also read in LUKE 22:33, of how Peter told Jesus ...*Lord, I am ready to go with thee, both into prison, and to death.* Luke will later record in ACTS how that Peter did go to prison at least three times for his walking with the Lord, but realize also it took more than the bravado of Peter for him ...*to go with thee, both into prison, and to death.* It really took the power of the Holy Ghost working in Peter's life before he could ...*go with thee, both into prison, and to death.* And in the end Peter really did ...*go with thee, both into prison, and to death.*

And none of us by our own strength can go on with the Lord, and fully walk with him to first rank translation without the power of the Holy Ghost leading and guiding our own life. There is no way we can translate ourselves, and our being translated will also be by the power of the Holy Ghost. The Apostle Paul explains this in HEBREWS 13, and it also takes the wonder working power of the Holy Ghost to fully appreciate what Paul writes here in HEBREWS 13. HEBREWS 13:20 *Now the God of peace, {the God of peace is a reference to the Holy Ghost} that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, 21 Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.* So as we close out thoughts from these verses in HEBREWS 13 it seems we are challenged to ask ourselves, is the Holy Ghost

working in me that which is wellpleasing in His sight? The Bride of Christ will be made perfect in every good work to do His will. Sometimes we sing the chorus "Let the Lord have His Way," and it goes like this:

"Let the Lord have His way,  
In your heart every day.  
There's no peace, there's no rest,  
'Til the Lord has His way.  
Place your hand in His hand,  
Walk securely in His plan.  
Let the Lord, oh let the Lord have His way."

The words of this chorus truly compliment HEBREWS 13:20 & 21, and is how we will be made ....*perfect in every good work to do his will...* .

Next in LUKE 22 we read a somewhat difficult passage to understand, simply because of the King James English. LUKE 22:35 *And he said unto them, When I sent you without purse, and scrip, and shoes, lacked ye any thing? And they said, Nothing.* 36 *Then said he unto them, But now, he that hath a purse, let him take it, and likewise his scrip: and he that hath no sword, let him sell his garment, and buy one.* 37 *For I say unto you, that this that is written must yet be accomplished in me, And he was reckoned among the transgressors: for the things concerning me have an end.* 38 *And they said, Lord, behold, here are two swords. And he said unto them, It is enough.*

This whole evening at the last supper Jesus had spent His time trying to get His disciples to understand that His time on earth with them was about to come to an end. Jesus had less than twenty-four hours, actually less than twenty hours before He would die on the cross for our sins. Jesus had spent His time at the last supper doing His best to get His disciples to understand this, yet as we noted earlier, they were focused upon themselves, and who would be the greatest. So in these verses we just read in LUKE 22:35-38 Jesus was making a final attempt to explain to them that things in their life would be changing, and changing fast, because He would no longer physically be with them. Jesus reminds them in verse 35 that when I sent you out as my messengers, without purse, provision bag, or shoes, "did you go in want of anything?" And of course they answered that no they lacked nothing. They lacked nothing because before Jesus had sent them out for only a short period of time. In verse 36 Jesus is telling them that from this point going forward it's going to be different. It's going to be different because of the dangers they were about to face in a world where Jesus wasn't physically by their side. Their world would now be full of rejection, and hardship. It would be necessary for them to provide their own money for traveling expenses, and have a knapsack (scrip) to carry provisions. The sword referenced in verse 36 would be a knife, not to be used for offensive purposes, but rather for defensive purposes. We must remember that the fishermen in this group would have been armed with such a "sword," a fisherman's knife, which they used for cleaning fish, and cutting ropes, and the like. The point Jesus was trying to get them to understand was that the world they were about to face was a hostile environment, and even Jesus Himself faced the full fury of Satan, and his evil devilish men in the next few hours. In the letter Pilate wrote to Caesar published in the 2012 April edition of the Grace and Glory magazine, Pilate wrote: "...on this occasion all the phantoms of the infernal regions had assembled at Jerusalem."

In LUKE 22:37 we again read Jesus words: *For I say unto you, that this that is written must yet be accomplished in me, And he was reckoned among the transgressors: for the things concerning me have an end.* Jesus here quotes from ISAIAH 53:12, which reads: *Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.* What Jesus was trying to get His disciples to understand here also on the evening of the Last Supper was ...*for the things concerning me have an end.* The end Jesus was referencing was the cross upon which He died the next day. Yes Jesus time here on earth with His disciples was coming to a swift end.

LUKE 22:38 *And they said, Lord, behold, here are two swords. And he said unto them, It is enough.* To some what clarify what is said in this verse let me give you an expounded translation of this verse taken from the best of 26 translations of this verse. “And they said, Look, Lord we have two swords here. And He said unto them, Enough, enough of this!” I think we can gather from this that the Lord was telling His disciples that enough has been said. Jesus had done His best for about three and a half years to explain things concerning Himself, and His Kingdom to them, but now the time had come for Him to face the cross.

The Apostle John recorded some additional words Jesus had just told them that evening, which help explain why Jesus disciples were unable at this time to comprehend what Jesus had just told them. We read this in JOHN 16. JOHN 16:12 *I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. 13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. 14 He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you. 15 All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you.* We know it took the power of the Holy Ghost to enable Jesus disciples to become the Kingdom Apostles they went on to be. And after the day of Pentecost when the Holy Ghost was poured out like Jesus had said, Peter and John, and the rest of them went on to proclaim the word of God in power, and demonstration of the Holy Ghost. Thousands were saved, thousands were healed, and the sword they wielded was the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God according to EPHESIANS 6:17.

Let's do a quick review of church history for a moment, and see how the words Jesus spoke that night of the last supper in JOHN 16:12-15 played out. The ministry of Peter, and the other Kingdom Apostles was unto the Jews, and their ministry was powerful as ACTS 2-8 clearly point out. About seven years after this Saul of Tarsus was saved, and filled with the Holy Ghost three days later, as ACTS 9 tells us, and he went on to become the Apostle unto the Gentiles, given his gospel message by the Lord Jesus Christ Himself as he was told by the Lord on the road to Damascus. Jesus exact words to Saul of Tarsus that day were as follows: ACTS 26:15 *...And he said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest. 16 But rise, and stand upon thy feet: for I have appeared unto thee for this purpose, to make thee a minister and a witness both of these things which thou hast seen, and of those things in the which I will appear unto thee; 17 Delivering thee from the people, and from the Gentiles, unto whom now I send thee, 18 To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.* Saul of Tarsus went on to become the Apostle Paul, the Apostle of the Gentiles according to ROMANS 13:11, and many other scriptures. Paul's gospel message unto the Gentiles was different than the message the Kingdom Apostles preached. Paul's gospel alone tells us of the racecourse, of winning Christ as Bridegroom, and of a better resurrection. Paul's gospel reveals the whole counsel of God, and how to put on the armour of light, how to put on the new man, how to put on the whole armour of God; and how to, as the elect of God, to put on bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering, and charity, and how we may grow up into Him in all things... COLOSSIANS 3, and EPHESIANS 4. Paul's gospel alone tells us that we are more than conquerors through him that loved us, which is a good quality to know. We are to be established in Paul's gospel, to the end that Christ Jesus may establish *...your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints...* 1 THESSALONIANS 3:13. We need to know the mysteries of Christ, revealed unto Paul, that were hidden in ages past, and written in his epistles. Paul's gospel teaches us how we are to rule and reign with Christ, as kings, and priests; as the full overcomers in the Bride of Christ taken from this church age! Paul's gospel teaches us how to focus upon Christ, to love His appearing, to be constantly looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, as we patiently run the race that is set before us ...HEBREWS 12:1 & 2.

The same words Jesus spoke to his disciples about the Holy Ghost that we read above in JOHN 16, also apply to you and me. Again Jesus told them that The Holy Ghost, who is also the Spirit of Truth ...*he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you. All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you* ...JOHN 16:13-15. This very same Holy Ghost will reveal unto you too the deeper things of Paul's gospel message that we just discussed. It will take the power of the Holy Ghost working in your life to make you ready to be the Lamb's wife!