Matthew 26:1-16 A Conspiracy, Anointing and Betrayal

The last thing Yeshua discussed with His disciples, while with them on the Mt of Olives before returning to Jerusalem, was concerning His return. Throughout His discourses with His disciples, Yeshua gave them glimpses of events surrounding His Second Coming.

Yeshua spoke to them in parables and gave them the understandings of their meanings to prepare and stay ready for His return; reminded them of things He had already told them; drew their attention to the words of the Prophets Malachi, Ezekiel, and Isaiah; and spoke to His disciples prophetically as He revealed to them things to come.

The disciples had no idea that in two days, their world would be affected in a drastic and dramatic way as Yeshua would be taken from them in a brutal, inhuman, and undeserving manner. In order for Yeshua to fulfill YeHoVaH's will in Jerusalem, several events had to unfold with several players involved, including His own disciple who would betray Him and set the stage for A Conspiracy, Anointing and Betrayal.

Mt 26:1 And it came to pass, when Yeshua had finished all these sayings, he said unto his disciples,

Mt 26:2 Ye know that after two days is the feast of the passover, and the Son of man is betrayed to be crucified.

After Peter's revelation that Yeshua was the Messiah, in Chapter 16, Yeshua told His disciples to not tell anyone that He was the Messiah.

Mt 16:21 From that time forth began Jesus to show unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day.

Mt 16:22 Then Peter took him, and began to rebuke him, saying, Be it far from thee, Lord: this shall not be unto thee.

Mt 16:23 But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offence unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men.

Yeshua recognized that although it was Peter, His disciple, being used (flesh and blood), it was satan doing the speaking. Yeshua spoke to satan who was speaking through Peter. Oftentimes we do not recognize the devil using people because we only see the people in the natural if we are walking by sight.

Yeshua told them in Chapter 17:

Mt 17:22 And while they abode in Galilee, Jesus said unto them, The Son of man shall be betrayed into the hands of men:

Mt 17:23 And they shall kill him, and the third day he shall be raised again. And they were exceeding sorry.

Yeshua told them in Chapter 20:

Mt 20:17 And Jesus going up to Jerusalem took the twelve disciples apart in the way, and said unto them,

Mt 20:18 Behold, we go up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man shall be betrayed unto the chief priests and unto the scribes, and they shall condemn him to death, Mt 20:19 And shall deliver him to the Gentiles to mock, and to scourge, and to crucify him: and the third day he shall rise again.

In Chapter 24, Yeshua had told that they would also be killed.

Mt 24:9 Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake.

With all those warnings of what would happen, where it would happen, and who would be involved in the process, the disciples seemed to be oblivious to what was about to happen.

The Conspiracy and Conspirators

Mt 26:3 Then assembled together the chief priests, and the scribes, and the elders of the people, unto the palace of the high priest, who was called Caiaphas,

A High Priestly conundrum: In this passage, Caiaphas is High Priest. In Luke, Annas and Caiaphas are High Priests.

Lk 3:1 Now in the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judaea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of Ituraea and of the region of Trachonitis, and Lysanias the tetrarch of Abilene,

Lk 3:2 Annas and Caiaphas being the high priests, the word of God came unto John the son of Zacharias in the wilderness.

There could only be one High Priest in office at a time.

In John, Yeshua was first taken to Annas who sent Him Bound to Caiaphas. Although Caiaphas was the High Priest in office, the people still regarded Annas as a person of authority and possibly as High Priest.

Jn 18:13 And led him away to Annas first; for he was father-in-law to Caiaphas, which was the high priest that same year.

Annas sent Yeshua bound to Caiaphas.

Jn 18:24 Now Annas had sent him bound unto Caiaphas the high priest.

In Acts 4, Annas is High Priest.

Ac 4:1 And as they spake unto the people, the priests, and the captain of the temple, and the Sadducees, came upon them,

Ac 4:2 Being grieved that they taught the people, and preached through Jesus the resurrection from the dead.

Ac 4:3 And they laid hands on them, and put them in hold unto the next day: for it was now eventide.

Ac 4:4 Howbeit many of them which heard the word believed; and the number of the men was about five thousand.

Ac 4:5 And it came to pass on the morrow, that their rulers, and elders, and scribes,

Ac 4:6 And Annas the high priest, and Caiaphas, and John, and Alexander, and as many as were of the kindred of the high priest, were gathered together at Jerusalem.

An Explanation from History

Annas was High Priest put into office by ...

Annas – 452 Άννας Annas {an'-nas}

Meaning: Annas = "humble" 1) high priest of the Jews, elevated to the priesthood by Quirinius the governor of Syria c. 6 or 7 A.D., but afterwards deposed by Valerius Gratus, the procurator of Judaea, who put in his place, first Ismael, son of Phabi, and shortly after Eleazar, son of Annas. From the latter, the office passed to Simon; from Simon c. 18 A.D. to Caiaphas; but Annas even after he had been put out of office, continued to have great influence. Usage: AV - Annas 4; 4

Caiaphas – 2533 Καϊάφας Kaiaphas {kah-ee-af'-as} Meaning: Caiaphas = "as comely" 1) a high priest of the Jews appointed to that office by Valerius Gratus, governor of Judaea, after removal of Simon, son of Camith, A.D. 18, and was removed A.D. 36 by Vitellius, governor of Syria, who appointed Jonathan, son of Ananus (Annus, father-in-law of Caiaphas), his successor

Mt 26:4 And consulted that they might take Yeshua by subtlety, and kill him. Mt 26:5 But they said, Not on the feast day, lest there be an uproar among the people.

Those verses reveals that it was not the plan to murder Yeshua on the Feast day. Passover was immediately followed by the Feast of Unleavened Bread which meant that their plan was to capture Yeshua, give Him a quick trial, and kill Him after the Passover to avoid an uproar among the people. On their way to Jerusalem, Yeshua and His disciples stopped in Bethany. All four Gospel narratives capture this event.

Mark Records:

Mk 14:1 After two days was the feast of the passover, and of unleavened bread: and the chief priests and the scribes sought how they might take him by craft, and put him to death. Mk 14:2 But they said, Not on the feast day, lest there be an uproar of the people.

Mk 14:3 And being in Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at meat, there came a woman having an alabaster box of ointment of spikenard very precious; and she brake the box, and poured it on his head.

Mk 14:4 And there were some that had indignation within themselves, and said, Why was this waste of the ointment made?

Mk 14:5 For it might have been sold for more than three hundred pence, and have been given to the poor. And they murmured against her.

A pence was a Roman silver coin. 300 Roman silver coins equaled about a year's wage.

The Anointing

Mt 26:6 Now when Yeshua was in Bethany, in the house of Simon the leper, Mt 26:7 There came unto him a woman having an alabaster box of very precious ointment, and poured it on his head, as he sat at meat.

The Place: Simon the leper's house The Woman: Mary, the sister of Lazarus and Martha The disciple who spoke: Judas

There are five women named Mary in the four Gospel narratives:

Mary the mother of Yeshua - 19, Mary Magdalene - 13, Mary the sister of Martha - 11, Mary the mother of James - 9, Mary the mother of John Mark - 1

Mary – 3137 Μαρία Maria {mar-ee'-ah} or Μαριάμ Mariam {mar-ee-am'} Meaning: Mary or Miriam = "their rebellion" 1) Mary the mother of Jesus 2) Mary Magdalene, a women from Magdala 3) Mary, the sister of Lazarus and Martha 4) Mary of Cleophas the mother of James the less 5) Mary the mother of John Mark, a sister of Barnabas 6) Mary, a Roman Christian who is greeted by Paul in Rom. 16:6

Usage: AV - Mary the mother of Jesus 19, Mary Magdalene 13, Mary the sister of Martha 11, Mary the mother of James 9, Mary the mother of John Mark 1, Mary of Rome 1; 54

John tells us this woman was Mary, the sister of Martha.

Jn 12:1 Then Jesus six days before the passover came to Bethany, where Lazarus was which had been dead, whom he raised from the dead.

Jn 12:2 There they made him a supper; and Martha served: but Lazarus was one of them that sat at the table with him.

Jn 12:3 Then took Mary a pound of ointment of spikenard, very costly, and anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped his feet with her hair: and the house was filled with the odour of the ointment. Jn 12:4 Then saith one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, which should betray him, Jn 12:5 Why was not this ointment sold for three hundred pence, and given to the poor? Jn 12:6 This he said, not that he cared for the poor; but because he was a thief, and had the bag, and bare what was put therein.

Mt 26:8 But when his disciples saw it, they had indignation, saying, To what purpose is this waste?

Mt 26:9 For this ointment might have been sold for much, and given to the poor.

Mt 26:10 When Yeshua understood it, he said unto them, Why trouble ye the woman? for she hath wrought a good work upon me.

When Yeshua perceived what was happening, He said ...

Mt 26:11 For ye have the poor always with you; but me ye have not always. Mt 26:12 For in that she hath poured this ointment on my body, she did it for my burial. Mt 26:13 Verily I say unto you, Wheresoever this gospel shall be preached in the whole world, there shall also this, that this woman hath done, be told for a memorial of her.

Yeshua's body was prepared for burial before He was crucified according to His statement.

The Betrayal

Mt 26:14 Then one of the twelve, called Judas Iscariot, went unto the chief priests,

Luke records:

Lk 22:1 Now the feast of unleavened bread drew nigh, which is called the Passover.

Lk 22:2 And the chief priests and scribes sought how they might kill him; for they feared the people.

Lk 22:3 Then entered Satan into Judas surnamed Iscariot, being of the number of the twelve. Lk 22:4 And he went his way, and communed with the chief priests and captains, how he might betray him unto them.

Lk 22:5 And they were glad, and covenanted to give him money.

Lk 22:6 And he promised, and sought opportunity to betray him unto them in the absence of the multitude.

The Price of Judas' Betrayal

Mt 26:15 And said unto them, What will ye give me, and I will deliver him unto you? And they covenanted with him for thirty pieces of silver.

Mt 26:16 And from that time he sought opportunity to betray him.