

MATTHEW 26 vs 1

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¹ **And it came to pass, when Jesus finished all these sayings,**

Matthew was an eyewitness to Jesus. The word here is: **logos**; when He had finished **these words**. Most people do not know that Matthew clearly organized his gospel in 5 sections or divisions... always concluding with this repetitious phrase:

We find this expression in chapter 7:28, when His early ministry and sermon on a mountainside concluded; in chapter 11:1, where Matthew shows us a sample of His ministry around the sea of Galilee; in chapter 13:53, when we observe the Messiah, teaching parables of the kingdom of God; chapter 19:1, as confrontations with religious leaders increase, Jesus departed to regions beyond Jordan in preparation to enter Jerusalem with much acclaim; **and here in chapter 26:1**, where we discover Jesus is to give... His life a ransom for many,



He said to His disciples / His mathetes; those doing the math,

² **You all know that after two days is the feast of the Passover, and the Son of Man will be betrayed and be crucified** / here on a Sunday, Matthew begins telling us one conversation going on... perhaps as they head out of Jerusalem for the evening... and suddenly we learn on the other side of town, a different exchange is taking place.

³ **Then assembled together** / the word is: **sunago**; and don't you hear the word **synagogue**? the place where people gather together;

then assembled together the chief priests / now, that's Annas, and his dumbass son-in-law Caiaphas,

and the scribes / the **grammateus**; the highly educated academicians. The scribes could always be identified: often walking around with a writing pen, stuck on their ear. In those days, that was a big deal! very stylish! And by the way, it was unlawful... a violation of the traditions of the elders, to walk around on the Sabbath day... with your writing pen stuck on your ear! Which would have been considered: working on the Sabbath... huh? Your ear carrying that writing pen... was work?

and the elders / the presbytery **of the people**. / What an illustrious crowd of celebrities! **and they assembled at the palace of the high priest, who was called Caiaphas** / did you get an invitation? it sounds elegant! You almost think **Buckingham**; but do you think of **barnyard** and hillbillies? Honestly, I don't know why the translators chose that word. The Greek word is: **aule**; it means: the **courtyard** or the cattle stalls, even the **sheepfold**. So, we learn they assembled in some gathering place; maybe the parking lot for every pack animal, and camel, and braying ass...and probably a few dumb sheep too...

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4 And consulted that they might take Jesus by stealth, and kill Him / they deliberated that they might seize Him with force, by craftiness and deceit. And why? they intended **to murder Him**. Matthew uses the word 13 times in this last section of his gospel. Jesus knew what He was confronting.

5 But they said, Not on the feast day, lest there be an uproar among the people / in other words, but don't mess up the Big party! And here we see... man's ways are not God's ways, are they? In **Leviticus 23**, we learn about **the 7 days of the Lord**. Notice they belong to Him, His appointments... though man has a habit of turning Holy Days into holidays, doesn't he?

Paul tells us... **these appointed days of the Lord**... **were shadows of things to come**., prophetic pictures; like a child's coloring book with outlined details... needing to be filled in. The **first 4 days** were **Passover**, **Unleavened Bread** ; **Firstfruits**; and **Pentecost**. The **last 3 days**, after the summer, also **shadows of things to come**: **Trumpets**; **Afflicting souls**, and **Tents** -- temporary booths or shelters... all these days of the Lord are in some way specifically fulfilled by **Christ the Messiah**.

They definitely did not want to take and kill Jesus on any of those times – centered around the days of the Lord; and they were required to come to Jerusalem with their offerings, not empty-handed.

That is the backdrop for Matthew's next narrative. Like a great movie script, And Matthew again cuts away; and takes us to another assembly going on at the same time on the other side of the mountain. Action!

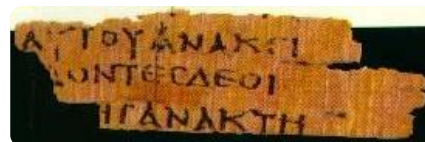
6 Now when Jesus was in Bethany, in the house of Simon the leper / and let's pay attention. Here are a few questions about this verse: Simon whoever he was... he once was leprous, but now healed. And was this the home of Judas Iscariot? Because John, the night Jesus was betrayed... he writes, Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon; or was Judas the son of Simon Peter? Or of someone else?

7 there came a woman to Him / Mary Magdalen, **having an alabaster box of very precious ointment** / Mark writes, An alabaster box of **spikenard** What's that all about?

Check out: **Eyewitness to Jesus**. for more about these 3 ancient verses; listen to **EYE WITNESS TO JESUS**.

Since 1994, these next verses written in the gospel of Matthew, are now the most researched papyri in the world, perhaps even written by Matthew having seen these very events himself, within 25 years of when Jesus walked among us; written no later than 70AD, when the temple was destroyed.

There came a woman to Him having an alabaster box of very precious ointment, and poured it on His head as He sat at dinner!



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8 But when the disciples saw it, they were indignant, saying, To what purpose is this waste? / to what apoleia _____. This is what Jesus later calls Judas, the son of **perdition**. And could Jesus have said of Judas... **Why this waste?** It is what Paul calls that **son of lawlessness** who will come. And in this verse, we find clueless disciples spouting off, but not in truth. And they're asking, **Why this waste?** Why this destruction? Why this recklessness? What's that all about?

9 For this might have been sold for much / notice, it might have been sold... but it might not have. After all, Judas was pocketing some of the \$\$.

it might have been sold... and given to the poor / of course; but, man's charitable ways and adverts... are not God's ways, are they?

10 But Jesus understood / He knew what was going on... ALL of it, **He said to them, Why do you trouble the woman? for she has done a good work on Me.**



11 For you have the poor always with you / to all of you charitable folk there are 365 days out of the year, you can take care of the poor. So, have at, go to;

but Me you do not have always.

12 For in that she poured this ointment on My body, she did it for My burial / somehow this woman understood that He was going to die, and the disciples didn't. Oh! That's right, she was paying attention; she was actually listening to Jesus.

Jesus continues...

13 Truly / AMEN to what I tell you next...

I say to you, Wherever this gospel will be preached in the whole world,

there also it will be told what this woman has done for a memorial of her / to remember her.

remember, all these people were eyewitnesses to all these events; and in the 1990s read about this evening discovered on ancient fragments written 25 years after this night took place; found in Magdalen College, England named after this woman
[Eyewitness to Jesus](#)

And did we hear that? Isn't it interesting that **these 3 ancient fragments** were found 100 years ago in **Magdalen College – United Kingdom**. And truly are **a memorial to her**.

Jesus said, remember her! So ask yourself how many preachers have reminded you about what this woman did, and what it means?

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Think about it: what did she do? Obviously, she heard the living Word at some time, probably several times... and she took it to heart. Then with a thankful heart... she sought Him out and brought Him some of her best. Right?! And It sure seems like God is going to do His part to make sure she is remembered.

14 **Then one of the twelve, called Judas Iscariot**

went out to the chief priests / was he maybe a little pissed off?



15 **And said, What will you give me, and I will deliver Him to you** / do you think Judas was already starting to look over his shoulder, getting a little nervous?

And they agreed with him for thirty pieces of silver / **they agreed on the price, already prophesied** -- **Zachariah 11**.

16 **And from that time he sought opportunity to betray Him.**

Think about it: we know, it is one thing to have our friends do our will... they will do it gladly; but consider this; what kind of power do you have to have, that even your enemies work your will and accomplish your desires? Jesus was not disturbed, He was in charge.

EYE WITNESS TO JESUS.

3 Days are still on His Calendar

Israeli Band : Psalm 150 |

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