

Context

- 1] Jesus is in Jerusalem for the last time, just before His arrest and crucifixion
- 2] He has 'signed off' His teaching with warnings about the coming destruction of the Temple and Jerusalem (AD 70) + about His return in glory as judge at the end of time (21:5-38)
- 3] His death that he has warned about several times (18:31-34) is imminent.
 ??? *If he was in charge, why didn't he stop it? - He didn't interject as he would infringe their free will*

Prepared to kill (1, 2)

- 1] ***Now the feast of unleavened bread drew near, which is called 'Passover' (1)***
*Nb Passover = celebrated God's deliverance of people from Egypt (Ex 12:18-20). The first day of the feast of unleavened bread was the day of Passover they were used synonymously
 at Passover – populations swelled (from c 30K) to c 2 m
 Cf vast crowds of 'black lives matter' protest – very hard to control*

- 2] ***the chief priests + the scribes were seeking how to put him to death for they feared the people (2)***

Nb repeat of (19:47,48)

Cf the tenants of the vineyard this is the heir – let us kill him (20:14)

Nb the light shines in the darkness but the darkness has not overcome it (Jn 1:5)

GRACE He did obliterate them in judgement / any of us

Note - There are those, (often religious powers), that seek the complete destruction of Jesus

Prepared to betray (3-6)

- 1] ***then Satan entered judas called Iscariot (3a)***

Nb Satan = lit. 'the accuser'. He had previously broken cover when he tempted Jesus (4:2ff)

Jesus warned "Peter, Satan has demanded to have you – but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail" (22:31)

Through death (Jesus) might destroy the one who has power over death, that is the devil (Heb 2:14)

Resist the Devil and he will flee from you (Jas 4:7)

Did I not choose you, the 12? Yet one of you is a devil ... Judas Iscariot (Jn 6:70,71)

My Father who has given them to me is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand (Jn 10:29)

Be aware. Satan can enter those closest to Jesus / His work

- 2] ***who was of the number of the twelve (3b)***

I.e. an apostle (6:13-16)

- 3] ***He went away and conferred with the chief priests and the officers how he might betray him to them (4)***

nb woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come but woe to the one by whom temptations come. (Mt 17:7)

4] ***And they were glad and agreed to give him money (5)***

Nb Agreed = covenanted - same word as New Covenant (20)

Nb in charge of the finances (Jn 12:6)

Love of money is a root of all kinds of evils (1 Tim 6:10)

Cf Parables of the rich fool (12:16ff) and Lazarus and Dives (16:19ff)

never put money first i.e. before God

5] ***So he consented and sought an opportunity to betray him to them in the absence of a crowd (6)***

God permits man's wilful sin

Prepared to celebrate (7-13)

1] ***then came the day of Unleavened Bread on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed (7)***

Cf (Ex 12:1-11; Dt 16:1-8)

Nb ritually slaughtered at the Temple until its destruction in AD 70

2] ***So Jesus sent Peter and John saying, 'Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat it (8)***

Nb Leading disciples of transfiguration (9:28)

Be prepared to go when Jesus tells you even if you don't know vital details

3] ***They said to him "Where would you have us prepare it?" (9)***

4] ***He said to them, (10,11)***

a) "Behold, when you have entered the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you.

Nb very unusual – men carried skeins, only women carried jars.

b) Follow him into the house that he enters

c) and tell the master of the house

of the master of the house (Lk 12:37ff, 46: 13:25; 14:21ff; 16:8)

d) The teacher says to you

e) Where is the guest room where I may eat Passover with my disciples?

Nb guest room same word as 'the inn' (2:7)

5] ***And he will show you to a large upper room furnished; prepare it there (12)***

Follow Jesus' instruction however nonsensical

6] ***And they went and found it just as He had told them, and they prepared the Passover (13)***

Cf Do you think that I can't appeal to my father + He will at once send 12 Legions of angels (Mt 26:53)

JESUS' sacrifice was a conscious self-offering

If you trust Him you will find it just as he told you

Conclusion

1] God is in complete control of all things at all times

2] He wants you to note, acknowledge believe, trust that before the trials come

Main Point - *Jesus was in complete control of all events of His Passover.*

Key Verse - *And they found it just as He had told them, and they prepared the Passover (13)*

Summary

As Passover approached, the Temple authorities wanted to kill Him, but feared the crowd (1,2)

Satan entered the apostle, Judas who agreed to betray Jesus at a price, privately. (3-6)

As Passover approached Jesus sent Peter and John into Jerusalem to prepare a place to eat it. He told them to go in and follow a man carrying water to a house where you will ask the master of the house for the guest room to eat Passover with His disciples. Prepare it there. (7-12)

They found it just so and prepared Passover (13)