



HIGH TREASON AGAINST THE KING

Matthew 26: 14 to 75

Starter: In what way do we sometimes let Jesus down?

1. What were Judas' motives in betraying Jesus? Was it greed for money? Disappointment that Jesus did not act like the Messiah they all expected? Some other reason – see Luke 22: 3 to 6?
2. Why was the Passover so important to Jesus as he approached the cross (verses 17 to 20)? See 1 Corinthians 5:7 and Hebrews 11:28.
3. Although the death of Jesus was necessary for our salvation why does this not excuse Judas' evil act? How does God sometimes use bad things to accomplish his plans and purposes? Give some examples.
4. A celebratory meal (verses 26 to 29) which was to bind us all together has been the subject of much dissension and disagreement in history. Carefully read these verses and share with each other what Jesus' words mean to you.
5. Why was Peter's rather boastful expression of devotion to Jesus a very rash thing to do – see verses 31 to 35; 69 to 75? What can we learn from this about staying true to the Lord without self-confidence? See verse 41; Mathew 6:13; Galatians 6: 1 to 3.
6. Why was it so important for Jesus to face his battle without using supernatural powers (verses 51 to 53)? Why is love so much stronger than either human or even satanic force? Why was following God's will the only way for him to go (verses 39 and 42)?
7. Did Jesus actually say that he would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days and what did he mean by this – see John 2: 18 to 22; 1 Peter 2: 4 to 8?
8. Why did Jesus always call himself 'Son of Man' (verse 64)? What would his reading of Daniel 7: 13 & 14? What did he mean by this title?