

Woe to That Man

Mark 14:12-26

by Don Falkos

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On the Day of Preparation, when the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed in the temple, Jesus sent off two of his disciples saying, "As you go into Jerusalem, you'll meet a man carrying a jar of water. Follow him home. Say to the owner of the house, 'The teacher asks: Which is the room where he and his disciples may eat the Passover?' He'll take you upstairs and show you a large room, furnished and ready for us. Prepare the Passover there."

The two left, went into the city, and found everything just the way Jesus had told them it would be. So they prepared the Passover meal. In the evening, Jesus took his place at the table with his apostles, and said, "The one who is about to betray me is here at this very table right now."

The apostles were dismayed, and they all said, "It isn't me, is it?"

Jesus replied, "It is one of you; one of my closest followers; one who has dipped bread into the bowl with me. The Son of Man is heading down a path that has long since been established. But woe to that man who betrays him. It would be better for him if he had never been born."

While they were eating, Jesus took bread and gave thanks to God. He broke the bread and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body."

Then he took a cup of wine and gave thanks to God. He gave it to them, and they all drank from it. Jesus said, "This is my blood, which is poured out for many, establishing a new covenant. I won't drink any more wine until the Kingdom of God comes."

They sang a hymn and then went out to the Mount of Olives.