

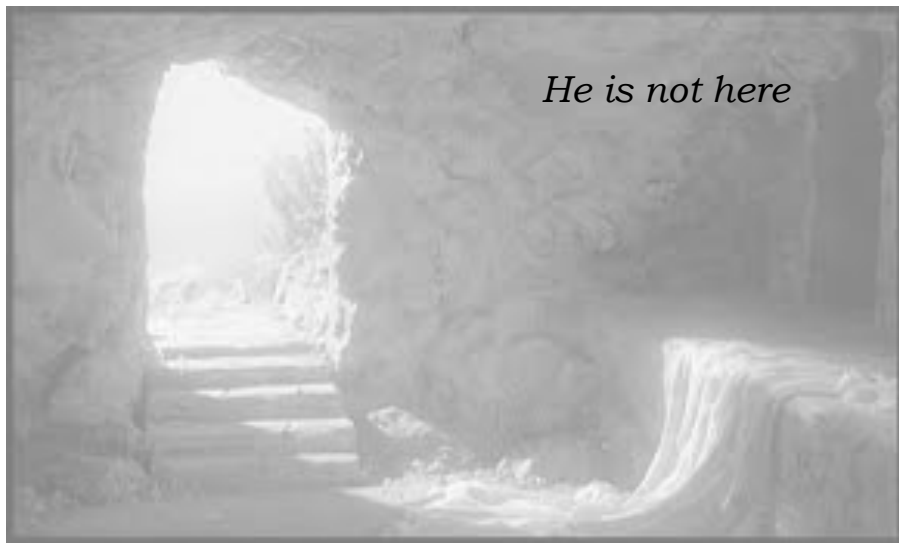
## Friday

Matthew 22:4-5 *Judas said, "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood." But they said, "What is that to us? See to that yourself!" And he threw the pieces of silver into the temple sanctuary and departed; and he went away and hanged himself.*

Judas made a big mistake. He walked with the Lord for a while but then he turned away and went after money. His love for money opened a door for Satan to come and use him for his own scheme. But as you can see, when we walk away from Jesus it never ends well.

His regret for betraying Jesus to have Him crucified drove him to his own death which he committed on himself!

Unlike Peter, who repented after denying he knew the Lord, Judas still had a demonic residue within him that drove him to that tree. As we are walking toward Easter with Jesus, let us hold on tight and keep a close fellowship with Him. This will be the best one yet!



# *Walking With Jesus*



## *Toward Easter*

*"They Want To Kill Jesus"*

*NEW HOPE Christian Church*

## **Monday**

Luke 22:1 *Now the Feast of Unleavened Bread, which is called the Passover, was approaching.*

Jesus came to Jerusalem at Passover because that is when the Passover lamb was sacrificed.

The first Passover was held in Egypt when the Angel of Death “passed over” the Hebrew houses that had the lamb’s blood on the sides and top of the door.

It’s amazing how the Bible flows from the Old Testament into the New Testament. Jesus has now entered Jerusalem for the Passover and He, Himself will be the Passover Lamb. He will be slain for the sins of the world. And because of that, Satan will do what he can to prevent that from happening.

You see, the devil is condemned but he doesn’t want to go alone. He seeks to take as many people as possible with Him. This is why the betrayal and arrest of Jesus: to prevent Him from getting to the Cross.

## **Wednesday**

Luke 22:3 *And Satan entered into Judas who was called Iscariot, belonging to the number of the twelve.*

A person, man or woman, can be an instrument of good or evil. Satan could not have entered into Judas unless Judas gave him some kind of entry.

William Barclay said;

“There is no handle on the outside of the door of the human heart. It must be opened from within.”

The character of Judas was all about money. His greed made a pathway for Satan to come in. He would steal from the money box he was in charge of as a disciple. When Mary anointed Jesus with expensive perfume he complained that it could have been sold and given to the poor but he wasn’t interested in helping the poor, only stealing the money. We must watch out what we give our heart to. It could be an open door for demonic influence.

## **Tuesday**

Luke 22:2 *The chief priests and the scribes were seeking how they might put Him to death; for they were afraid of the people.*

The multitude of people actually loved or at least accepted Jesus. When we think of the crowd that cried Crucify Him, it was more a mob and I don’t believe it was the same people but those instigated by the religious leaders.

The religious leaders were afraid that a riot might break out if they arrested Jesus in public.

God uses people to accomplish His will, but sadly, Satan does the same. Here, he uses the religious leaders, those entrusted to lead the people to God. He deceives them into seeking to destroy God, come in the flesh.

They feared the people would riot if they did it publicly, so they devised a plan, and Judas would be the devil’s victim. But Judas gave the devil an inroad into his heart. What do you think that was?

## **Thursday**

After Satan entered into Judas:

Luke 22:4-5 *And he went away and discussed with the chief priests and officers how he might betray Him to them.*

*They were glad and agreed to give him money.*

This was Judas’ open door to let the devil in.

There are other doors as well:

An open door is anything evil that you give your heart to: money, sex & pornography, drugs & alcohol, even some Eastern religions. When you give your mind over to something, it creates a vacuum that will quickly be invaded and filled up with darkness if you keep out the light.

God reminded Joshua *but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it;* Psalm 1:2 *his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night.* That’s how you protect your heart.