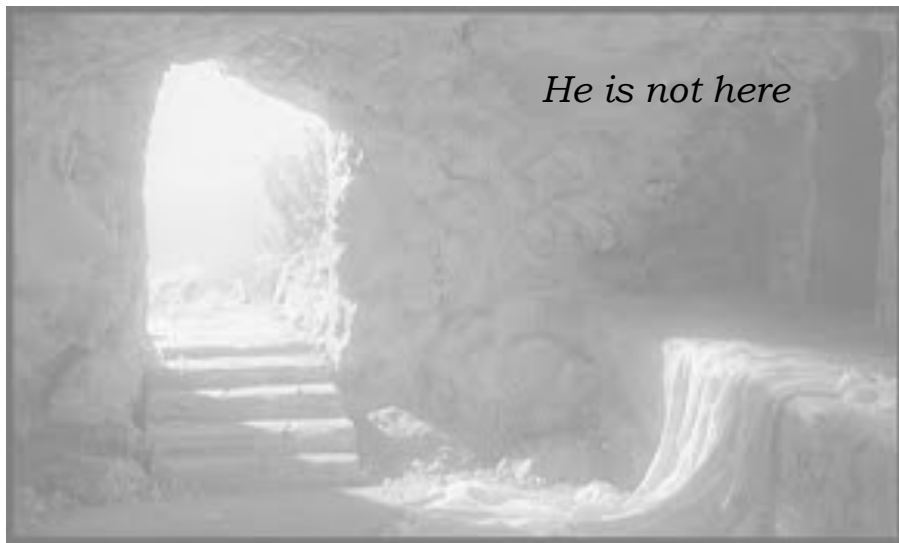


## Friday

Lu 22:54 4 *When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness."*

This hour belonged to: the religious leaders, Satan and God. It was the evil nature in man that was used to work out the purpose of God. The Cross was the tool revealing human unbelief. The powers of darkness would afflict Him with great suffering. So Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword into its sheath; shall I not drink the cup that the Father has given me?" Jesus knew the victory of darkness would be brief.

Like the eclipse that hides the sun, but the light triumphs. Like the powerful wave that crashes onto the rocks, it turns into a mere spray. So Jesus knew the victory would be His. Then, the disciples fled away, (Mk 14:50) Jesus always knew who He was and what He came to do. The question is, "Do you?" You can either run to Him or run from Him. Let's run to Him!



# *Walking With Jesus*



## *Toward Easter*

*"He Was Betrayed And Arrested"*

*NEW HOPE Christian Church*

### **Monday**

Lu 22:44 *And being in agony He was praying very fervently; and His sweat became like drops of blood, falling down upon the ground.*

We are walking with Jesus toward Easter and though Jesus just celebrated the Passover meal with His disciples, I think it was rather emotional for Him. He explained: The bread and cup depicted His sacrifice. One of them was going to betray Him. The disciples were arguing who was the best disciple. Jesus washed their feet and demonstrated true greatness is servanthood. Then they went out into a garden to pray.

The pressure on Jesus was so intense, that blood seeped through the pores on His head and He even thought He would die.

He said to His disciples; "My soul is deeply grieved to the point of death; remain here and keep watch." Mk 14:34

Only Jesus knew the intensity of the spiritual battle that was waging in that beautiful garden. Would He survive the Satanic attack? Would the disciples come to understand what was happening?

### **Tuesday**

Lu 22:47 *While He was still speaking, behold, a crowd came, and the one called Judas, one of the twelve, was preceding them; and he approached Jesus to kiss Him.*

This crowd consisted of Temple guards, Scribes & Pharisees, Chief Priests, and Judas who abandoned God and entered into a league with Satan. This is what happens when one rejects Christ, Satan finds his way into the heart.

The religious leaders were blind from the beginning. Jesus said of them: "...they are blind guides. And if the blind lead the blind, both will fall into a pit." Mt 15:14

How dangerous it is to replace knowing Jesus personally with any other form of religious thinking or behavior. Jesus came to present Himself to us that we would have a Person to walk with and not a manual to follow.

Jesus came to be relational with us for that is what we all need; someone we can look to and rely upon that loves us; Jesus!

### **Wednesday**

Lu 22:47 *Judas, one of the twelve, was preceding them; and he approached Jesus to kiss Him.*

v.48 *But Jesus said to him, "Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?"*

How far someone has sunk to take that which was meant as a sign of affection and use it as a sign of betrayal. In our culture, men don't kiss men but we use a handshake as a sign of friendship or affection. Be sure your handshake is from a pure motive.

"It was the kiss of a beloved disciple to a beloved master that Judas used as a sign of betrayal. It was like Jesus was saying: "Are you so dead to all feeling that you can kiss and betray? Was there no other sign you could use?" William Barclay

Judas abandoned Him. The religious leaders rejected Him and the disciples will flee from Him. This was the beginning of Jesus being all alone in His passion. It was only His Father who never left Him. Remember, He will never leave you!

### **Thursday**

Jn 18:5-6 *Jesus said to them, "I am he." Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. When Jesus said to them, "I am he," they drew back and fell to the ground.*

This was a demonstration of His infinite power signifying He is always in control!

Jn 10:17-18 Jesus said; "For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father."

Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's servant and cut off his right ear. (The servant's name was Malchus.) Peter, in a moment of rashness and anger, struck out with a sword, not thinking he was putting all the disciples in danger had he killed Malchus. But Jesus healed Malchus and was led away.