22:27 ***"Yet here am I among you as one who serves":*** they will witness to their dismay what a lowly service Jesus is about to do for us all!

- He is going to wash our sins away with His own Blood!
- Their idea of earthly glory was crazy… **and shameful.**

22:28-30 **C. Rewards :** We are so weak that we need rewards for our services!
We need recognition – from **someone**!

- In His great loving-kindness Jesus, the King, **confers His Kingdom** on these men who do not yet understand Him at all!
- The Father had given the K.O.G. to His Son – Jesus now gives it **to the Church** to take care of – to love – to serve, and to die for!

20:30 **D. Jesus' Gift of Authority to the Twelve**

(i) ***"you will eat and drink at My table in my Kingdom"***

a) the **Eucharist is Jesus' Table**: He would **always** join us…

(ii) ***"you will sit on THRONES to judge the 12 Tribes of Israel"***

b) to Judge means to give Spiritual leadership cf. Book of Judges
c) the 12 Tribes – **NEW, REDEEMED ISRAEL → CHURCH**

E. Peter's Problem : Peter had rejected the idea of a Suffering Messiah
– but Luke did not tell us this.

- Here Luke explains Peter's denials **BEFORE** they happen, because the people would have a problem with such a weak leader!!

22:31 The Passover of Jesus **was a crisis time for the Twelve – a sifting time.**
But Jesus had interceded for them all – especially Peter, **the leader** so that **HIS FAITH** would not fail

→ Keeping the faith enabled Peter **to RECOVER** after his fall
∴ he will return to faithful, loving service…

NB **After** this experience Peter was to strengthen the others – **who would fail also!**
- it is then that he would understand forgiveness and its liberating force.

It was when they **all** failed Jesus that they began to lose their pride and become brothers to each other… **In failure** do you worry about who is the greatest?

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22:33 **Peter vows** his readiness to go to prison – and death, for Jesus
- but that was **not for NOW**. He had **a lot** of growing to do before he would accept imprisonment in the infamous **MARITIME PRISON** in Rome to be crucified for Jesus.

22:34 Jesus prophesises Peter's fall – before the end of **this** day!!
- This was incomprehensible to Peter at that moment
– But he did not realise that their **KNOWN world was about to end** in a few hours!!
- And a **NEW ERA** be inaugurated by Jesus.

- The next 24 hours would be Hell-on-Earth for the Twelve and would change them forever.

22:35-38 **Crisis for the Church: 20:35-38**

- Everything was going to change in the next 24 hours –
  - Afterwards they would have to take up the weapons of **Spiritual Warfare** to fight the good fight for the K.O.G.

- The Apostles misunderstand Jesus and think they must fight physically
  - hence Peter's sword in Gethsemane! (22:51)

- Once the Isaiah prophecy of Is 53:12 occurred, the Apostles would begin their Mission in a hostile world - but you cannot fight Satan and evil **with material weapons!**

  Cf. 2 Cor 10:4 ***"Our war is NOT fought with weapons of flesh, yet we <u>are</u> strong enough, in God's cause, to demolish fortresses…"***

22:38 The Apostles produce 2 swords – so Jesus ends the conversation abruptly!!

The Time of Testing and Sifting Begins: Lk 22:39-53

22:39-40
- The Apostles have no time to adapt – they go straight to Mount of Olives – to Gethsemane
  - **Jesus had prayed for them: now they must pray themselves.**

- Jesus **ordered them TO PRAY**. It was urgent for Him and for **them!**
  - ***"Pray not to be put to the test"*** cf. *"Our Father"* in Lk 11:4

22:41
- Since Jesus was in a very different space to them; he withdrew and began to pray **<u>ALONE</u>**…
  He ALONE was the INTERCESSOR for Humanity.
  - there was **no input** from the Apostles.

Jesus **KNELT DOWN** to pray. 21st Century take note! He showed humility and reverence before the All-Holy One, even though He was His Father!

22:42 Knowing all that was to come Jesus asked if ***"this cup"*** would be taken from Him – but only if it was God's Will.

<u>Notice</u> that ***'this cup'*** is His Passion / Death on the Cross.

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- Jesus had accepted the Cup at the Last supper.
- Now He agrees to drink it to **the dregs** for us!

(NB) When **we** drink the Precious Blood of the Lamb at Eucharist we, too, agree to **our** participation in His Redemptive Suffering.

22:43 ***"Thy Will be done"!*** cf. Lk 11:2: 'our Father'

22:44

- His anguish was so great He sweated Blood! **"AGŌNIA"**

Why? was he afraid of crucifixion?

No! As He pronounced **His FIAT** as **the Redeemer**, He became responsible before God for the sins of **all** human beings.

(NB) → the sewer of the world was poured into His **most pure soul**

- He who had always done the Will of His Father had become responsible for: all wars / revolts / seditions… all killing – **He who was Life!**
- Jesus { *He persisted – did not give up* / *stayed struggling* } - in prayer until 'it was all over'.

Note that He would not struggle or agonise throughout the rest of His Martyrdom.
- because Body, Soul, Heart, Mind and Will had said Yes! To God

Fiat! Yes! to the Redemption of Humanity
Fiat! Yes! to paying **ANY** price to overcome evil

(NB) This was His moment / His victory over Satan, the world and the flesh.

22:45 **Jesus 'rose up' from his prayer a NEW MAN: THE REDEEMER**
- the Liberator of all souls: Lk 4, the proclamation
- the Conqueror of Hell: Lk 4, the wilderness

(NB)
- The rest of the Passion was merely **THE PRICE** He **agreed** to pay.
- The High Priests paid a price for Him also: 30 pieces of silver
  - the price of a slave.

But
- He agreed to spill the blood of the Son of God made Man
  - the price He paid for us **demonetises all currencies!**
  - for it is human **and** divine.

22:46
- The Apostles **slept** through the **most important moment** in **history, when in weakness** – not in strength – Jesus agreed to save us!
- Even at this 11th hour He begged them **TO PRAY** – otherwise they **would all** fail Him… as they did!

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THE ARREST OF THE LAMB OF GOD: 22:47-53

22:47 Judas was with the enemies of Jesus – **"leading them"** to Him! **Cf. Ps 55:12-14**
- He gave the kiss of discipleship to Jesus!

(NB) It is now we see that '**the cup**' of Jesus contains **BETRAYAL / DECEIT**
- 2 signs of Satan at work: **"It was Night": Jn 13:30**

22:48 Jesus speaks lovingly to Judas: ***"Are you betraying the Son of Man… kiss?"***
- The warning is for **everyone not** to betray Him **with FALSE LOVE**
- **Love betrayed by love!**

- Jesus betrayed by his own…
"God is Love" cf. 1 Jn 4:7 so this is a despicable act that only Satan could cook-up.

22:50-51 **CHAOS erupts** and everyone is in turmoil
- The Apostles resort to violence! - after all His teaching about love and forgiveness!
- Cutting off the ear of the High Priest's Servant – would have been **the ONLY evidence they had against Jesus –** it would have led to the arrest / torture and maybe death of the apostles.

- So, here, at the last moment Jesus has **to save them** – **again!**
  - He heals the ear
  - He orders them to stop } showing His Lordship / Power / Control
  - He subdues the apostles

22:52 **Only now** we are told that **this unruly crowd** consisted of:

No Lay People present!

- Chief Priests
- Captains of the guard (temple officers / Police)
- Elders of the People cf. 19:47

(ie) those responsible for His death soon!

- Jesus shows **Humour** (!) in asking these Leaders why they needed weapons to arrest **A TEACHER?**
  - They could have arrested Him legitimately in the Temple **any day**!

  - But they wanted to act **SECRETLY** – like Satan Himself, who operates in shadows and pretends he does not exist! Cf. 21:37

"But this is YOUR Hour; this is the Reign of Darkness" **SKOTOS = time of evil deeds**

The Leaders were on Satan's side against Jesus, the Light of the World!

Notice that, in the midst of the chaos **Jesus alone is STILL**
- He alone is **in control** - **He has NO FEAR**

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THE SANHEDIN TRIAL 22:54-71

In 2 parts: (a) In the High Priests **House** – at night: **illegal!**
(b) Before the Assembly the following day: **Legal**

22:54 After His arrest Jesus was taken to the High Priest's **HOUSE**!! **Caiaphas**

22:55 Luke gives all attention **to Peter** first. **He is tried before and in the presence of his Master**

Peter's Trial

- Peter, the chief apostle followed at a **DISTANCE** (minding himself)
  - He joined the enemies of Jesus at a fire in the courtyard
  - He is in the wrong company and at the **wrong** fire!

- The **true fire** for Peter is given in 12:49 ***"I have come to bring fire to the earth"***

- And **Acts 2:3-4** ***"Something appeared to them like tongues of fire… they were all filled with the Holy Spirit"***

- **Our choice** is the purifying Fire of Heaven or the destructive fire of Hell: Lk 3:16-18

- Hiding among Jesus' enemies is **NOT** a place **of GRACE** → **but of shame.**

22:56-61 So, under pressure from those who **recognised him AS A DISCIPLE,** Peter denied his Master 3 times – as Jesus had said.

- Cf. Lk 12:9 ***"But the man who disowns me in the presence of men will be disowned in the presence of God's angels".***

Peter does not know what **danger** he is in! **But** in all the chaos Jesus turned and caught Peter's eye… And then Peter remembered… and wept and repented to become **PETER OF JESUS, a new man**!

- *"the lowest ebb is the turning of the tide"* Jesus' **LOVE** rescued Peter yet again
→ Peter had to be saved **FROM HIMSELF**!

Jesus is Abused and Tortured 22:63-71

Stage I

22:63-65 The Temple Guards – who were employed to protect God's House, (temple). kept mocking and beating Jesus – this fulfills His own prediction in **18:32**
"that He would be mocked, maltreated and spat upon"

Provocation!

- Who hit you then? Jesus knew it was the guards who hit him. He did not have to be a prophet to gain this knowledge! Everyone knew.

- (NB) The High Priest allowed this abuse of Jesus in his presence – with the guards employed by him! **What a disgrace** for **his office**!

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