



Quaker Universalist Voice

Luke 22: Passion Narrative Translated for Children

by J.M. Spears

Luke 22:

1. Now it was almost the time to celebrate God's action in freeing the people Israel from the slavery of the Pharaoh. This feast of unleavened bread is called Passover.

2. The religious leaders of the people and the teachers of the law met. They tried to find a way to get rid of Jesus because they were afraid of the people.

3. And Satan, the one who works against God, entered Judas Iscariot. Judas Iscariot was one of the twelve with Jesus. Judas left the others. 4. He went to the religious leaders and officers of the Temple Police. Judas talked to them about how to hand Jesus over to them. 5. They were greatly pleased. They agreed to give Judas money. 6. Judas fully agreed with them. Then, Judas looked for a way to get Jesus to them when there wasn't a crowd around.

7. Then came the day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread on which the Passover lamb was to be killed. 8. So, Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go prepare a Passover meal for us so we can eat."

9. They asked Jesus, "Where do you want us to prepare for it?"

10. And Jesus said to them, "When you go into the city, a person carrying a pitcher of water will meet you. Follow that person into the house. After you are in the house, say to the owner of the house, 11. 'The teacher says to you, Where is the guest room where my students and I may eat the Passover meal together?' 12. The owner will show you a large upstairs room all set for eating. Fix the meal there. 13. They left and found everything just as Jesus had told them. So, they prepared the Passover.

14. When the hour came, Jesus took his place. And the apostles*, the ones chosen specially to be sent, took their places.

15. And Jesus said to them, "I have wanted so much to eat this Passover meal with you before I suffer pain. 16. For I tell you, there is no way I can eat the Passover meal again until every Passover hope is met with God's leadership, so that everyone is free."

17. After taking the cup, Jesus thanked God and said, "Take this and share it among yourselves. 18. For I tell you, there is no way I can drink the fruit of the vine until God's leadership is recognized."

19. And taking some bread and thanking God, Jesus broke the bread and gave it to them saying, "This is my body being given for you. Do this to remember me."

20. After supper, once again Jesus took the cup saying, "This cup, the new promise in my blood, being poured out for you. 21. But look! The hand of the one who will turn me in is on this table with my hand! 22. I, the one born human, go as it has been determined. But, there will be great pain for the human through whom the handing over is done!"

23. Then they began to argue about which of them could be about to hand Jesus over. 24. And then there was also a fight about who was the greatest.

25. So, Jesus said to them, "The rulers of other peoples must show their control over them. And those in command over other people are called 'the one who bribes.'" 26. But, you are not to be like that. Rather, the greatest one of you should be like the youngest. And the leader should be like the one serving. 27. For who is the greater, the one who sits at the table, or the one who serves? But, I am among you as one serving."

28. "You are those who have stayed by me through my trials and struggles. 29. God has given me a special job to lead. So, too, I give you a special job to lead, 30. So that you may eat and drink at my table when I am the recognized leader. This is so that you may have power to deliver the twelve families of Israel from oppression."

31. Simon, Simon, you must see that Satan demanded to have all of you, to thresh you like wheat. 32. But, I have prayed for you, Simon Peter, that your trust in God may not fail. When you have turned again, strengthen the others in your fellowship."

33. And Peter said to Jesus, "Leader, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death."

34. Jesus said, "I tell you Peter, a rooster will not crow in the morning until three times you have said that you do not know me."

35. And he said to them, "When I sent you out on a trip with no money, suitcase, or sandals, did you need anything?"

They said, double, "Nothing."

36. He said to them, "But now, let the one who has money take it. Take a suitcase, too. And let those who do not have a sword sell their jacket and buy one. 37. For I tell

you that what is written is to happen with me. It is written, "And he was counted with criminals.' For indeed, this about me has an ending."

38. And they said, "Look, Sir, here are two swords."

And Jesus said to them, "That's enough of this!"

39. Jesus left the city and went, as usual, to the Hill with Many Olive Trees. Jesus' students followed. 40. When they got there, Jesus said to the students, "Pray that you will not have to stand the hard test." 41. He went about a stone's throw away from them. Jesus knelt down and prayed, 42. "God, I am your child. Please consider not making me do this. However, it is not what I want, but what you decide, that shall be done."

43. And Jesus recognized a messenger* from God strengthening him. 44 Jesus was in an agony* of struggle. Jesus prayed more earnestly. His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down on the earth.

45. And when Jesus was raised by prayer, he came to the students* and found them sleeping because of fear. 46. Jesus said to them, "Why are you in grief-filled sleep? Pick yourselves up and pray that you will not enter into the hard testing."

47. While Jesus was speaking, a crowd appeared. The one leading was Judas. Judas was one of the twelve chosen by Jesus. Judas went up close to kiss Jesus. 48. But, Jesus said, "Judas, would you turn on the one born human, with a kiss?"

49. And when those who are with Jesus saw what was about to happen, they said, "Sir! Shall we whack them with a sword?" 50. And one of them hit the President's slave, cutting off his right ear.

51. But, Jesus said, "Stop! No more of this!" And Jesus touched the ear, healing him.

52. The religious leaders, captains for the Temple Police, and other officials had come out to get Jesus. Then, Jesus spoke to them, "Have you come out as you would to get a robber or a rebel, with swords and clubs? 53. 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 hour when darkness takes over and rules."

54. Then they arrested Jesus. They led him away. They took Jesus into the house of the President of the Supreme Council. Peter followed them, but at a distance.

55. The soldiers started a fire in the center of the courtyard and sat down together. Peter sat among them. Then, a servant saw Peter near the light. She stared at him. Then, she said, "This man was with him, too."

57. But, Peter denied it, saying, "Woman, I do not know him."

58. And a little later, someone else saw him and said, "You are one of them, too!"

But, Peter said, "Man! I am not!"

59. And about an hour later, still another person insisted, saying "Sure this man was with him. He is from Galilee."

60. But, Peter said, "Man! I do not know what you are saying!"

And immediately, while Peter was still speaking, a rooster crowed. 61. And Jesus turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the word of the leader. Peter remembered how Jesus had said, "Before a rooster crows today, you will say three times that you do not know me." 62. Peter left. Outside, Peter cried and cried.

63. Now the men who were holding Jesus made fun of him. And they beat him. 64. They also blindfolded him. Then, they teased him saying, "Since you're so smart, who hit you?" 65. And they said many other terrible things to insult Jesus.

66. When day came, all the important officers and representatives of the people gathered together. This included the religious leaders and the teachers of the law. They took Jesus to this official meeting.

Then, they said. 67. "If you are the one chosen by God, tell us."

But, Jesus said to them, "If I tell you, you will not believe. 68. And if I ask you, you will not answer. 69. But, from now on the one born human shall sit in the seat and speak out of the strength and authority of the power of the mighty God."

70. And they all said, "So, are you the one born divine, then?"

And Jesus said to them, "You say that I am."

71. And they said, "What more do we need to hear? We have heard it ourselves from his own lips."