



*Quaker Universalist Voice*

## Luke 22: Special Words from the Passion Narrative

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**Agony** (Luke 24:44) is here used as a noun that includes the concepts of anxiety, struggle, suffering, and contest.

**Apostle** (Luke 22:14) is one who is sent out as an envoy, or as a commissioned messenger, especially as God's messenger. Apostles are often seen as a group of highly honored believers who have a special function. Judaism had an office known as "apostle." In the early church, apostle was used to designate those with missionary responsibilities. Basic to Jesus is his self-understanding of having been sent by God. Jesus, in turn, sent out his disciples, with his authority, to continue and extend God's mission.

**Messenger** (Luke 22:43) is one who is sent as an envoy, by a person or by God. Angels are known as messengers of God. It is these messengers who were recognized in the birth stories. Messengers from God strengthened Jesus during the temptations. (See Luke 4, particularly as it relates to Luke 22.)

**Student** (Luke 22:11 and 45) is a learner, pupil, or apprentice. The large group of Jesus' followers is referred to as "disciples."