

# **The Plot, The Anointing, The Betrayal**

**Matthew 26: 1-16**

**October 22, 2023**

# Agape

- Agape speaks of the most powerful, noblest type of love: sacrificial love.
- Agape love is more than a feeling—it is an act of the will.
- This is the love that God has for his people and that prompted the sacrifice of his only son, Jesus, for our sins. Jesus was agape love personified.

Verse 1 - 5

Two days to the cross – “*BUT GOD*”

**Jesus is giving His disciples a heads up, in two days  
He will die by crucifixion**

Jesus says one thing, the Jewish leaders say  
something else, but not during the feast – verse 5

**Satan thinks he is in control, the foolish leaders  
think they are in control**

What they do not know - the plan to kill Jesus came  
from the God head – Acts 2: 23

*“Him, being delivered by the determined purpose  
and foreknowledge of God, you have taken by  
lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death.”*

## The **“BUT GOD”** Lesson:

All believers must learn this lesson

People can conspire, plan, plot, do whatever they want, or plan whatever they want

**“BUT GOD”** will determine how things are played out

Not puny man, not deceptive Satan, not any demonic entity, **“BUT GOD”**

Things may look bleak, awful, hopeless, the cross certainly was all that . . . . .

**“BUT GOD”**, our Sovereign, is in full control

**Never doubt this fact!!**

**Verse 6 - 13**

**Mary anoints Jesus for burial**

**Mark adds,** Mary broke the flask containing the oil; all the costly oil went on Jesus

This started a brouhaha amongst the disciples, with Judas leading the charge – [John 12: 5-6](#)

*“Why was this fragrant oil not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor? This he said, not that he cared for the poor, but because he was a thief, and had the money box; and he used to take what was put in it.”*

## **The disciples missed the significance of the anointing moment**

**Mary did not miss her opportunity!**

### **LESSON:**

**Don't miss your opportunity to do something great and out of the ordinary for God!**

**It will cost you to be great for God!**

**Bring your best sacrifice, *bring the best you!***

Verse 14 - 16

**Judas, the betrayer: Disappointed  
in Jesus**

Judas saw all the miracles

Judas heard the Sermon on the Mount and witnessed the heart of Jesus

Judas was with Jesus for 3 years and had firsthand experience with Jesus

Judas saw, Judas experienced, yet Judas was a phony, disappointed in Jesus!

Like many today, Judas was disappointed in Jesus, Jesus did not do what he expected

**Judas' last-ditch effort to save something for the last three years of sacrifice, he plotted with the chief priests to betray Jesus**

**What they agreed on was thirty pieces of silver, the price paid for a gored slave in the Old Testament**

**This shows the disdain the Sanhedrin and Judas had for Jesus**

**Judas was simply an earth dweller, consumed with himself and no one else**

## CLOSING THOUGHTS:

The “*disappointed in Jesus*” crowd are numerous

Many want a Jesus that is all about them - a genie,  
a “*get what I want*” Jesus



**The “*make believe*” Jesus is very popular in America today**

**What the “*make believe*” crowd is missing is the real Jesus – *the Jesus of the Bible!***

**The Jesus that says, “*Take up your cross, die to self, and the self-life, and follow Me*”**

**Matthew has been teaching us about Jesus’ kingdom, preparing us to be kingdom-minded**

***We are being prepared for another place!!***

For those of the “BUT GOD” crowd, those who really believe that God is sovereign . . . . .

KNOW THIS:

**God is actively involved in your life,  
even when life stinks!**

The **“BUT GOD”** crowd lives with an expectation that this world simply does not have

The **“BUT GOD”** crowd are **not** rooted here, but rooted in another kingdom, another world, a place that is called **HOME!!**

The **“BUT GOD”** crowd realize that no matter what is happening in my life, **GOD IS CLOSE!**

# An immanent God?

- ✦ God is present in the universe and involved with life on earth.
- ✦ People can experience God in their lives.
- ✦ God acts in history and influences events.

## **Acts 17:26, 27**

**“And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us.”**

Only the **“BUT GOD”** crowd can say . . . . .

***I WILL TRUST IN THE LORD  
UNTIL I DIE!***

**THANK GOD!!**

***WE ARE ALMOST HOME!!***