



Pesaha Scripture Readings

St George's Malankara Syrian Orthodox Church, Carteret NJ USA

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----|
| Evening - Wednesday..... | 4 |
| John 7:37-52..... | 4 |
| John 8:12-20..... | 6 |
| Midnight – 1 st KAUMA..... | 7 |
| Matthew 26:17-30 | 7 |
| 2 nd KAUMA..... | 9 |
| John 6:24-40..... | 9 |
| 3 rd KAUMA..... | 11 |
| John 6:41-63..... | 11 |
| MORNING..... | 13 |
| Luke 22:1-13..... | 13 |
| 3 rd hour..... | 14 |
| John 12:23-36..... | 14 |
| 6 th hour (noon)..... | 16 |
| Mark 14:1-2..... | 16 |
| Luke 7:36-50..... | 16 |
| BEFORE HOLY QURBANA | 18 |
| OLD TESTAMENT READINGS..... | 18 |
| Exodus 12:1-11..... | 18 |
| Leviticus 16:3-10 | 19 |
| Joshua 5:9-12..... | 20 |
| Ezekiel 21:8-17 | 21 |
| 1 Samuel 10:17-21..... | 22 |
| Proverbs 1:10-19 | 23 |
| Amos 2:4-7..... | 24 |

| | |
|-----------------------------|----|
| Jeremiah 18:18-23..... | 25 |
| Ezekiel 45:18-25 | 26 |
| Zechariah 11:10-14..... | 27 |
| Isaiah 24:16-18..... | 28 |
| Isaiah 50:4-10..... | 29 |
| HOLY QURBANA..... | 30 |
| Acts 1:15-20 | 30 |
| 1 Corinthians 11:23-34..... | 31 |
| the sermon..... | 32 |
| Luke 22:14-30 | 32 |
| Matthew 26:1-19..... | 34 |

EVENING - WEDNESDAY

JOHN 7:37-52

Jesus Talks About the Spirit

³⁷ On the last and most important day of the feast Jesus stood up and said in a loud voice, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink.

³⁸ If anyone believes in me, rivers of living water will flow out from that person's heart, as the Scripture says."

³⁹ Jesus was talking about the Holy Spirit. The Spirit had not yet been given, because Jesus had not yet been raised to glory. But later, those who believed in Jesus would receive the Spirit.

The People Argue About Jesus

⁴⁰ When the people heard Jesus' words, some of them said, "This man really is the Prophet."

⁴¹ Others said, "He is the Christ."

Still others said, "The Christ will not come from Galilee.

⁴² The Scripture says that the Christ will come from David's family and from Bethlehem, the town where David lived."

⁴³ So the people did not agree with each other about Jesus.

⁴⁴ Some of them wanted to arrest him, but no one was able to touch him.

Some Leaders Won't Believe

⁴⁵ The Temple guards went back to the leading priests and the Pharisees, who asked, "Why didn't you bring Jesus?"

⁴⁶ The guards answered, "The words he says are greater than the words of any other person who has ever spoken!"

⁴⁷ The Pharisees answered, "So Jesus has fooled you also!

⁴⁸ Have any of the leaders or the Pharisees believed in him? No!

⁴⁹ But these people, who know nothing about the law, are under God's curse."

⁵⁰ Nicodemus, who had gone to see Jesus before, was in that group He said,

⁵¹ "Our law does not judge a person without hearing him and knowing what he has done."

⁵² They answered, "Are you from Galilee, too? Study the Scriptures, and you will learn that no prophet comes from Galilee."

JOHN 8:12-20

Jesus Is the Light of the World

¹² Later, Jesus talked to the people again, saying, "I am the light of the world. The person who follows me will never live in darkness but will have the light that gives life."

¹³ The Pharisees said to Jesus, "When you talk about yourself, you are the only one to say these things are true. We cannot accept what you say."

¹⁴ Jesus answered, "Yes, I am saying these things about myself, but they are true. I know where I came from and where I am going. But you don't know where I came from or where I am going."

¹⁵ You judge by human standards. I am not judging anyone.

¹⁶ But when I do judge, I judge truthfully, because I am not alone. The Father who sent me is with me.

¹⁷ Your own law says that when two witnesses say the same thing, you must accept what they say.

¹⁸ I am one of the witnesses who speaks about myself, and the Father who sent me is the other witness."

¹⁹ They asked, "Where is your father?"

Jesus answered, "You don't know me or my Father. If you knew me, you would know my Father, too."

²⁰ Jesus said these things while he was teaching in the Temple, near where the money is kept. But no one arrested him, because the right time for him had not yet come.

MIDNIGHT – 1ST KAUMA

MATTHEW 26:17-30

Jesus Eats the Passover Meal

¹⁷ On the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the followers came to Jesus. They said, "Where do you want us to prepare for you to eat the Passover meal?"

¹⁸ Jesus answered, "Go into the city to a certain man and tell him, 'The Teacher says: "The chosen time is near. I will have the Passover with my followers at your house." ' "

¹⁹ The followers did what Jesus told them to do, and they prepared the Passover meal.

²⁰ In the evening Jesus was sitting at the table with his twelve followers.

²¹ As they were eating, Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, one of you will turn against me."

²² This made the followers very sad. Each one began to say to Jesus, "Surely, Lord, I am not the one who will turn against you, am I?"

²³ Jesus answered, "The man who has dipped his hand with me into the bowl is the one who will turn against me."

²⁴ The Son of Man will die, just as the Scriptures say. But how terrible it will be for the person who hands the Son of Man over to be killed. It would be better for him if he had never been born."

²⁵ Then Judas, who would give Jesus to his enemies, said to Jesus, "Teacher, surely I am not the one, am I?"

Jesus answered, "Yes, it is you."

The Lord's Supper

²⁶ While they were eating, Jesus took some bread and thanked God for it and broke it. Then he gave it to his followers and said, "Take this bread and eat it; this is my body."

²⁷ Then Jesus took a cup and thanked God for it and gave it to the followers. He said, "Every one of you drink this.

²⁸ This is my blood which is the new^[a] agreement that God makes with his people. This blood is poured out for many to forgive their sins.

²⁹ I tell you this: I will not drink of this fruit of the vine^[b] again until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

³⁰ After singing a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

2ND KAUMA

JOHN 6:24-40

²⁴ When the people saw that Jesus and his followers were not there now, they got into boats and went to Capernaum to find Jesus.

Jesus, the Bread of Life

²⁵ When the people found Jesus on the other side of the lake, they asked him, "Teacher, when did you come here?"

²⁶ Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, you aren't looking for me because you saw me do miracles. You are looking for me because you ate the bread and were satisfied.

²⁷ Don't work for the food that spoils. Work for the food that stays good always and gives eternal life. The Son of Man will give you this food, because on him God the Father has put his power."

²⁸ The people asked Jesus, "What are the things God wants us to do?"

²⁹ Jesus answered, "The work God wants you to do is this: Believe the One he sent."

³⁰ So the people asked, "What miracle will you do? If we see a miracle, we will believe you. What will you do?"

³¹ Our ancestors ate the manna in the desert. This is written in the Scriptures: 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.' "[a]

³² Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, it was not Moses who gave you bread from heaven; it is my Father who is giving you the true bread from heaven.

³³ God's bread is the One who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."

³⁴ The people said, "Sir, give us this bread always."

³⁵ Then Jesus said, "I am the bread that gives life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

³⁶ But as I told you before, you have seen me and still don't believe.

³⁷ The Father gives me the people who are mine. Every one of them will come to me, and I will always accept them.

³⁸ I came down from heaven to do what God wants me to do, not what I want to do.

³⁹ Here is what the One who sent me wants me to do: I must not lose even one whom God gave me, but I must raise them all on the last day. ⁴⁰ Those who see the Son and believe in him have eternal life, and I will raise them on the last day. This is what my Father wants."

3RD KAUMA

JOHN 6:41-63

⁴¹ Some people began to complain about Jesus because he said, "I am the bread that comes down from heaven."

⁴² They said, "This is Jesus, the son of Joseph. We know his father and mother. How can he say, 'I came down from heaven'?"

⁴³ But Jesus answered, "Stop complaining to each other. ⁴⁴ The Father is the One who sent me. No one can come to me unless the Father draws him to me, and I will raise that person up on the last day.

⁴⁵ It is written in the prophets, 'They will all be taught by God.' Everyone who listens to the Father and learns from him comes to me.

⁴⁶ No one has seen the Father except the One who is from God; only he has seen the Father.

⁴⁷ I tell you the truth, whoever believes has eternal life.

⁴⁸ I am the bread that gives life.

⁴⁹ Your ancestors ate the manna in the desert, but still they died.

⁵⁰ Here is the bread that comes down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will never die.

⁵¹ I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give up so that the world may have life."

⁵² Then the evil people began to argue among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?"

⁵³ Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, you must eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood. Otherwise, you won't have real life in you.

⁵⁴ Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day.

⁵⁵ My flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink.

⁵⁶ Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood live in me, and I live in them.⁵⁷ The living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father. So whoever eats me will live because of me.

⁵⁸ I am not like the bread your ancestors ate. They ate that bread and still died. I am the bread that came down from heaven, and whoever eats this bread will live forever."

⁵⁹ Jesus said all these things while he was teaching in the synagogue in Capernaum.

THE WORDS OF ETERNAL LIFE

⁶⁰ When the followers of Jesus heard this, many of them said, "This teaching is hard. Who can accept it?"

⁶¹ Knowing that his followers were complaining about this, Jesus said, "Does this teaching bother you?"

⁶² Then will it also bother you to see the Son of Man going back to the place where he came from?"

⁶³ It is the Spirit that gives life. The flesh doesn't give life. The words I told you are spirit, and they give life.

MORNING

LUKE 22:1-13

JUDAS BECOMES AN ENEMY OF JESUS

¹ It was almost time for the Feast of Unleavened Bread, called the Passover Feast.

² The leading priests and teachers of the law were trying to find a way to kill Jesus, because they were afraid of the people.

³ Satan entered Judas Iscariot, one of Jesus' twelve apostles.

⁴ Judas went to the leading priests and some of the soldiers who guarded the Temple and talked to them about a way to hand Jesus over to them.

⁵ They were pleased and agreed to give Judas money.

⁶ He agreed and watched for the best time to hand Jesus over to them when he was away from the crowd.

JESUS EATS THE PASSOVER MEAL

⁷ The Day of Unleavened Bread came when the Passover lambs had to be sacrificed.

⁸ Jesus said to Peter and John, "Go and prepare the Passover meal for us to eat."

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

¹⁰ Jesus said to them, "After you go into the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him into the house that he enters,

¹¹ and tell the owner of the house, 'The Teacher says: "Where is the guest room in which I may eat the Passover meal with my followers?" '

¹² Then he will show you a large, furnished room upstairs. Prepare the Passover meal there."

¹³ So Peter and John left and found everything as Jesus had said. And they prepared the Passover meal.

3RD HOUR

JOHN 12:23-36

²³ Jesus said to them, "The time has come for the Son of Man to receive his glory.

²⁴ I tell you the truth, a grain of wheat must fall to the ground and die to make many seeds. But if it never dies, it remains only a single seed.

²⁵ Those who love their lives will lose them, but those who hate their lives in this world will keep true life forever.

²⁶ Whoever serves me must follow me. Then my servant will be with me everywhere I am. My Father will honor anyone who serves me.

²⁷ "Now I am very troubled. Should I say, 'Father, save me from this time'? No, I came to this time so I could suffer.

²⁸ Father, bring glory to your name!"

Then a voice came from heaven, "I have brought glory to it, and I will do it again."

²⁹ The crowd standing there, who heard the voice, said it was thunder.

But others said, "An angel has spoken to him."

³⁰ Jesus said, "That voice was for your sake, not mine.

³¹ Now is the time for the world to be judged; now the ruler of this world will be thrown down.

³² If I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw all people toward me."

³³ Jesus said this to show how he would die.

³⁴ The crowd said, "We have heard from the law that the Christ will live forever. So why do you say, 'The Son of Man must be lifted up'? Who is this 'Son of Man'?"

³⁵ Then Jesus said, "The light will be with you for a little longer, so walk while you have the light. Then the darkness will not catch you. If you walk in the darkness, you will not know where you are going.

³⁶ Believe in the light while you still have it so that you will become children of light." When Jesus had said this, he left and hid himself from them.

6TH HOUR (NOON)

MARK 14:1-2

MARK 14

THE PLAN TO KILL JESUS

¹ It was now only two days before the Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread. The leading priests and teachers of the law were trying to find a trick to arrest Jesus and kill him.

² But they said, "We must not do it during the feast, because the people might cause a riot."

LUKE 7:36-50

A WOMAN WASHES JESUS' FEET

³⁶ One of the Pharisees asked Jesus to eat with him, so Jesus went into the Pharisee's house and sat at the table.³⁷ A sinful woman in the town learned that Jesus was eating at the Pharisee's house. So she brought an alabaster jar of perfume

³⁸ and stood behind Jesus at his feet, crying. She began to wash his feet with her tears, and she dried them with her hair, kissing them many times and rubbing them with the perfume.

³⁹ When the Pharisee who asked Jesus to come to his house saw this, he thought to himself, "If Jesus were a prophet, he would know that the woman touching him is a sinner!"

⁴⁰ Jesus said to the Pharisee, "Simon, I have something to say to you."

Simon said, "Teacher, tell me."

⁴¹ Jesus said, "Two people owed money to the same banker. One owed five hundred coins^[a] and the other owed fifty.

⁴² They had no money to pay what they owed, but the banker told both of them they did not have to pay him. Which person will love the banker more?"

⁴³ Simon, the Pharisee, answered, "I think it would be the one who owed him the most money."

Jesus said to Simon, "You are right."

⁴⁴ Then Jesus turned toward the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? When I came into your house, you gave me no water for my feet, but she washed my feet with her tears and dried them with her hair.

⁴⁵ You gave me no kiss of greeting, but she has been kissing my feet since I came in.

⁴⁶ You did not put oil on my head, but she poured perfume on my feet.

⁴⁷ I tell you that her many sins are forgiven, so she showed great love. But the person who is forgiven only a little will love only a little."

⁴⁸ Then Jesus said to her, "Your sins are forgiven."

⁴⁹ The people sitting at the table began to say among themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?"

⁵⁰ Jesus said to the woman, "Because you believed, you are saved from your sins. Go in peace."

BEFORE HOLY QURBANA

OLD TESTAMENT READINGS

EXODUS 12:1-11

THE FIRST PASSOVER

¹ The LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt:

² "This month will be the beginning of months, the first month of the year for you.

³ Tell the whole community of Israel that on the tenth day of this month each man must get one lamb for the people in his house.

⁴ If there are not enough people in his house to eat a whole lamb, he must share it with his closest neighbor, considering the number of people. There must be enough lamb for everyone to eat.

⁵ The lamb must be a one-year-old male that has nothing wrong with it. This animal can be either a young sheep or a young goat.

⁶ Take care of the animals until the fourteenth day of the month. On that day all the people of the community of Israel will kill them in the evening before dark.

⁷ The people must take some of the blood and put it on the sides and tops of the doorframes of the houses where they eat the lambs.

⁸ On this night they must roast the lamb over a fire. They must eat it with bitter herbs and bread made without yeast.

⁹ Do not eat the lamb raw or boiled in water. Roast the whole lamb over a fire—with its head, legs, and inner organs.

¹⁰ You must not leave any of it until morning, but if any of it is left over until morning, you must burn it with fire.

¹¹ "This is the way you must eat it: You must be fully dressed as if you were going on a trip. You must have your sandals on and your walking stick in your hand. You must eat it in a hurry; this is the LORD's Passover.

LEVITICUS 16:3-10

³ "This is how Aaron may enter the Most Holy Place: Before he enters, he must offer a bull for a sin offering and a male sheep for a whole burnt offering.

⁴ He must put on the holy linen inner robe, with the linen underclothes next to his body. His belt will be the cloth belt, and he will wear the linen turban. These are holy clothes, so he must bathe his body in water before he puts them on.

⁵ "Aaron must take from the people of Israel two male goats for a sin offering and one male sheep for a burnt offering.

⁶ Then he will offer the bull for the sin offering for himself to remove sins from him and his family so they will belong to the LORD.

⁷ "Next Aaron will take the two goats and bring them before the LORD at the entrance to the Meeting Tent.

⁸ He will throw lots for the two goats—one will be for the LORD and the other for the goat that removes sin.

⁹ Then Aaron will take the goat that was chosen for the LORD by throwing the lot, and he will offer it as a sin offering.

¹⁰ The other goat, which was chosen by lot to remove the sin, must be brought alive before the LORD. The priest will use it to perform the acts that remove Israel's sin so they will belong to the LORD. Then this goat will be sent out into the desert as a goat that removes sin.

JOSHUA 5:9-12

⁹ Then the LORD said to Joshua, "As slaves in Egypt you were ashamed, but today I have removed that shame." So Joshua named that place Gilgal, which it is still named today.

¹⁰ The people of Israel were camped at Gilgal on the plains of Jericho. It was there, on the evening of the fourteenth day of the month, they celebrated the Passover Feast.

¹¹ The day after the Passover, the people ate food grown on that land: bread made without yeast and roasted grain.

¹² The day they ate this food, the manna stopped coming. The Israelites no longer got the manna from heaven. They ate the food grown in the land of Canaan that year.

EZEKIEL 21:8-17

⁸ The LORD spoke his word to me, saying:

⁹ "Human, prophesy and say, 'This is what the Lord says:

A sword, a sword,
made sharp and polished.

¹⁰ It is made sharp for the killing.
It is polished to flash like lightning.

" 'You are not happy about this horrible punishment by the sword. But my son Judah, you did not change when you were only beaten with a rod.

¹¹ The sword should be polished.
It is meant to be held in the hand.

It is made sharp and polished,
ready for the hand of a killer.

¹² Shout and yell, human,
because the sword is meant for my people,
for all the rulers of Israel.

They will be killed by the sword,
along with my people.
So beat your chest in sadness.

¹³ " 'The test will come. And Judah, who is hated by the armies of Babylon, will not last, says the Lord GOD.'

¹⁴ "So, human, prophesy
and clap your hands.

Let the sword strike
two or three times.

It is a sword meant for killing,
a sword meant for much killing.

This sword surrounds the people to be killed.

¹⁵ Their hearts will melt with fear,
and many people will die.

I have placed the killing sword
at all their city gates.

Oh! The sword is made to flash like lightning.
It is held, ready for killing.

¹⁶ Sword, cut on the right side;
then cut on the left side.

Cut anywhere your blade is turned.

¹⁷ I will also clap my hands
and use up my anger.

I, the LORD, have spoken."

1 SAMUEL 10:17-21

¹⁷ Samuel called all the people of Israel to meet with the LORD at Mizpah.

¹⁸ He said, "This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: 'I led Israel out of Egypt. I saved you from Egypt's control and from other kingdoms that were troubling you.'

¹⁹ But now you have rejected your God. He saves you from all your troubles and problems, but you said, 'No! We want a king to rule over us.' Now come, stand before the LORD in your tribes and family groups."

²⁰ When Samuel gathered all the tribes of Israel, the tribe of Benjamin was picked.

²¹ Samuel had them pass by in family groups, and Matri's family was picked. Then he had each man of Matri's family pass by, and Saul son of Kish was picked. But when they looked for Saul, they could not find him.

PROVERBS 1:10-19

- ¹⁰ My child, if sinners try to lead you into sin,
do not follow them.
- ¹¹ They will say, "Come with us.
Let's ambush and kill someone;
let's attack some innocent people just for fun.
- ¹² Let's swallow them alive, as death does;
let's swallow them whole, as the grave does.
- ¹³ We will take all kinds of valuable things
and fill our houses with stolen goods.
- ¹⁴ Come join us,
and we will share with you stolen goods."
- ¹⁵ My child, do not go along with them;
do not do what they do.
- ¹⁶ They are eager to do evil
and are quick to kill.
- ¹⁷ It is useless to spread out a net
right where the birds can see it.
- ¹⁸ But sinners will fall into their own traps;
they will only catch themselves!
- ¹⁹ All greedy people end up this way;
greed kills selfish people.

AMOS 2:4-7

THE PEOPLE OF JUDAH

- ⁴ This is what the LORD says:
"For the many crimes of Judah,
I will punish them.
They rejected the teachings of the LORD
and did not keep his commands;
they followed the same gods
as their ancestors had followed.
- ⁵ So I will send fire on Judah,
and it will destroy the strong buildings of Jerusalem."

ISRAEL IS PUNISHED

- ⁶ This is what the LORD says:
"For the many crimes of Israel,
I will punish them.
For silver, they sell people who have done nothing wrong;
they sell the poor to buy a pair of sandals.
- ⁷ They walk on poor people as if they were dirt,
and they refuse to be fair to those who are suffering.
Fathers and sons have sexual relations with the same woman,
and so they ruin my holy name.

JEREMIAH 18:18-23

JEREMIAH'S FOURTH COMPLAINT

¹⁸ Then the people said, "Come, let's make plans against Jeremiah. Surely the teaching of the law by the priest will not be lost. We will still have the advice from the wise teachers and the words of the prophets. So let's ruin him by telling lies about him. We won't pay attention to anything he says."

¹⁹ LORD, listen to me.

Listen to what my accusers are saying!

²⁰ Good should not be paid back with evil,
but they have dug a pit in order to kill me.

Remember that I stood before you
and asked you to do good things for these people
and to turn your anger away from them.

²¹ So now, let their children starve,
and let their enemies kill them with swords.

Let their wives lose their children and husbands.
Let the men from Judah be put to death
and the young men be killed with swords in battle.

²² Let them cry out in their houses
when you bring an enemy against them suddenly.
Let all this happen, because my enemies have dug
a pit to capture me and have hidden traps for my feet.

²³ LORD, you know
about all their plans to kill me.
Don't forgive their crimes
or erase their sins from your mind.
Make them fall from their places;
punish them while you are angry.

EZEKIEL 45:18-25

¹⁸ " 'This is what the Lord GOD says: On the first day of the first month take a young bull that has nothing wrong with it. Use it to make the Temple pure and ready for God's service.

¹⁹ The priest will take some of the blood from this sin offering and put it on the doorposts of the Temple, on the four corners of the ledge of the altar, and on the posts of the gate to the inner courtyard.

²⁰ You will do the same thing on the seventh day of the month for anyone who has sinned by accident or without knowing it. This is how you make the Temple pure and ready for God's service.

PASSOVER FEAST OFFERINGS

²¹ " 'On the fourteenth day of the first month you will celebrate the Feast of Passover. It will be a feast of seven days when you eat bread made without yeast.

²² On that day the ruler must offer a bull for himself and for all the people of the land as a sin offering.

²³ During the seven days of the feast he must offer seven bulls and seven male sheep that have nothing wrong with them. They will be burnt offerings to the LORD, which the ruler will offer every day of the seven days of the feast. He must also offer a male goat every day as a sin offering.

²⁴ The ruler must give as a grain offering one-half bushel for each bull and one-half bushel for each sheep. He must give a gallon of olive oil for each half bushel.

²⁵ " 'Beginning on the fifteenth day of the seventh month, when you celebrate the Feast of Shelters, the ruler will supply the same things for seven days: the sin offerings, burnt offerings, grain offerings, and the olive oil.

ZECHARIAH 11:10-14

¹⁰ Then I broke the stick named Pleasant to break the agreement God made with all the nations.

¹¹ That day it was broken. The weak ones in the flock who were watching me knew this message was from the LORD.

¹² Then I said, "If you want to pay me, pay me. If not, then don't." So they paid me thirty pieces of silver.

¹³ The LORD said to me, "Throw the money to the potter." That is how little they thought I was worth.^[a] So I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw them to the potter in the Temple of the LORD.

¹⁴ Then I broke the second stick, named Union, to break the brotherhood between Judah and Israel.

ISAIAH 24:16-18

¹⁶ We hear songs from every part of the earth
praising God, the Righteous One.

But I said, "I am dying! I am dying!
How terrible it will be for me!
Traitors turn against people;
with their dishonesty, they turn against people."

¹⁷ There are terrors, holes, and traps
for the people of the earth.

¹⁸ Anyone who tries to escape from the sound of terror
will fall into a hole.

Anyone who climbs out of the hole
will be caught in a trap.

The clouds in the sky will pour out rain,
and the foundations of the earth will shake.

ISAIAH 50:4-10

GOD'S SERVANT OBEYS

- ⁴ The Lord GOD gave me the ability to teach
so that I know what to say to make the weak strong.
Every morning he wakes me.
He teaches me to listen like a student.
- ⁵ The Lord GOD helps me learn,
and I have not turned against him
nor stopped following him.
- ⁶ I offered my back to those who beat me.
I offered my cheeks to those who pulled my beard.
I won't hide my face from them
when they make fun of me and spit at me.
- ⁷ The Lord GOD helps me,
so I will not be ashamed.
I will be determined,
and I know I will not be disgraced.
- ⁸ He shows that I am innocent, and he is close to me.
So who can accuse me?
If there is someone, let us go to court together.
If someone wants to prove I have done wrong,
he should come and tell me.
- ⁹ Look! It is the Lord GOD who helps me.
So who can prove me guilty?
Look! All those who try will become useless like old clothes;
moths will eat them.
- ¹⁰ Who among you fears the LORD
and obeys his servant?
That person may walk in the dark
and have no light.
Then let him trust in the LORD
and yet depend on his God.

HOLY QURBANA

ACTS 1:15-20

¹⁵ During this time there was a meeting of the believers (about one hundred twenty of them). Peter stood up and said,

¹⁶⁻¹⁷ "Brothers and sisters, in the Scriptures the Holy Spirit said through David something that must happen involving Judas. He was one of our own group and served together with us. He led those who arrested Jesus."

¹⁸ (Judas bought a field with the money he got for his evil act. But he fell to his death, his body burst open, and all his intestines poured out.

¹⁹ Everyone in Jerusalem learned about this so they named this place Akeldama. In their language Akeldama means "Field of Blood.")

²⁰ "In the Book of Psalms," Peter said, "this is written:

'May his place be empty;
leave no one to live in it.'

And it is also written:

'Let another man replace him as leader.'

1 CORINTHIANS 11:23-34

²³ The teaching I gave you is the same teaching I received from the Lord: On the night when the Lord Jesus was handed over to be killed, he took bread

²⁴ and gave thanks for it. Then he broke the bread and said, "This is my body; it is^[a] for you. Do this to remember me."

²⁵ In the same way, after they ate, Jesus took the cup. He said, "This cup is the new agreement that is sealed with the blood of my death. When you drink this, do it to remember me."

²⁶ Every time you eat this bread and drink this cup you are telling others about the Lord's death until he comes.

²⁷ So a person who eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in a way that is not worthy of it will be guilty of sinning against the body and the blood of the Lord.

²⁸ Look into your own hearts before you eat the bread and drink the cup,

²⁹ because all who eat the bread and drink the cup without recognizing the body eat and drink judgment against themselves.

³⁰ That is why many in your group are sick and weak, and some of you have died.

³¹ But if we judged ourselves in the right way, God would not judge us.

³² But when the Lord judges us, he disciplines us so that we will not be destroyed along with the world.

³³ So my brothers and sisters, when you come together to eat, wait for each other.

³⁴ Anyone who is too hungry should eat at home so that in meeting together you will not bring God's judgment on yourselves. I will tell you what to do about the other things when I come.

THE SERMON

LUKE 22:14-30

THE LORD'S SUPPER

¹⁴ When the time came, Jesus and the apostles were sitting at the table.

¹⁵ He said to them, "I wanted very much to eat this Passover meal with you before I suffer.

¹⁶ I will not eat another Passover meal until it is given its true meaning in the kingdom of God."

¹⁷ Then Jesus took a cup, gave thanks, and said, "Take this cup and share it among yourselves.

¹⁸ I will not drink again from the fruit of the vine^[a] until God's kingdom comes."

¹⁹ Then Jesus took some bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to the apostles, saying, "This is my body,^[b] which I am giving for you. Do this to remember me."

²⁰ In the same way, after supper, Jesus took the cup and said, "This cup is the new agreement that God makes with his people. This new agreement begins with my blood which is poured out for you.

WHO WILL TURN AGAINST JESUS?

²¹ "But one of you will turn against me, and his hand is with mine on the table.

²² What God has planned for the Son of Man will happen, but how terrible it will be for that one who turns against the Son of Man."

²³ Then the apostles asked each other which one of them would do that.

BE LIKE A SERVANT

²⁴ The apostles also began to argue about which one of them was the most important.

²⁵ But Jesus said to them, "The kings of the non-Jewish people rule over them, and those who have authority over others like to be called 'friends of the people.'

²⁶ But you must not be like that. Instead, the greatest among you should be like the youngest, and the leader should be like the servant.

²⁷ Who is more important: the one sitting at the table or the one serving? You think the one at the table is more important, but I am like a servant among you.

²⁸ "You have stayed with me through my struggles.

²⁹ Just as my Father has given me a kingdom, I also give you a kingdom

³⁰ so you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom. And you will sit on thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

DON'T LOSE YOUR FAITH!

MATTHEW 26:1-19

THE PLAN TO KILL JESUS

- ¹ After Jesus finished saying all these things, he told his followers,
- ² "You know that the day after tomorrow is the day of the Passover Feast. On that day the Son of Man will be given to his enemies to be crucified."
- ³ Then the leading priests and the elders had a meeting at the palace of the high priest, named Caiaphas.
- ⁴ At the meeting, they planned to set a trap to arrest Jesus and kill him.
- ⁵ But they said, "We must not do it during the feast, because the people might cause a riot."

PERFUME FOR JESUS' BURIAL

- ⁶ Jesus was in Bethany at the house of Simon, who had a skin disease.⁷ While Jesus was there, a woman approached him with an alabaster jar filled with expensive perfume. She poured this perfume on Jesus' head while he was eating.
- ⁸ His followers were upset when they saw the woman do this. They asked, "Why waste that perfume?"
- ⁹ It could have been sold for a great deal of money and the money given to the poor."
- ¹⁰ Knowing what had happened, Jesus said, "Why are you troubling this woman? She did an excellent thing for me.
- ¹¹ You will always have the poor with you, but you will not always have me.
- ¹² This woman poured perfume on my body to prepare me for burial.
- ¹³ I tell you the truth, wherever the Good News is preached in all the world, what this woman has done will be told, and people will remember her."

JUDAS BECOMES AN ENEMY OF JESUS

- ¹⁴ Then one of the twelve apostles, Judas Iscariot, went to talk to the leading priests.
- ¹⁵ He said, "What will you pay me for giving Jesus to you?" And they gave him thirty silver coins.

¹⁶ After that, Judas watched for the best time to turn Jesus in.

JESUS EATS THE PASSOVER MEAL

¹⁷ On the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the followers came to Jesus. They said, "Where do you want us to prepare for you to eat the Passover meal?"

¹⁸ Jesus answered, "Go into the city to a certain man and tell him, 'The Teacher says: "The chosen time is near. I will have the Passover with my followers at your house." ' "

¹⁹ The followers did what Jesus told them to do, and they prepared the Passover meal.