

**Valley Bible Church**  
**Sermon Notes for March 20, 1988**

**Tying Up Loose Ends**  
**Matthew 26:1-16**  
**Dale Whitehead**

Introduction: Everything exists to glorify God. The cross is the ultimate glory to God.

Jesus is preparing for His death. He has finished speaking His final teaching to the disciples, explaining that His kingdom is not going to be established now.

The disciples are asking in their minds, “What is going to happen now?” Jesus explains in **verse 2** that He is going to be crucified. In less than 48 hours He is to be killed.

Jesus is about to lay His life down. No one is taking His life; He is going to lay it down (**John 10: 17-18**).

The ruling body of Israel is gathered together this Wednesday evening to plot Jesus’ death. **Verse 4**, they plotted together to seize Jesus by deceit, by stealth and kill Him. “But not during the festival.” They did not want to kill Him for another 9 days.

**1 Corinthians 5:7**: Jesus is our “Passover” by shedding His blood.

The chief priests are working toward Jesus’ death but working specifically for His death after the Passover celebration.

**Verse 6-13**, an unnamed woman disciple anoints Jesus. **John 12:1-8**, Mary the sister of Lazarus is the one who anoints Jesus. This actually takes place on the previous Saturday.

Mary, the one who sat at the feet of Jesus, listened to Him saying He was going to die, and knew He was literally going to die and was performing an act of worship far beyond what people would consider reasonable.

**Verse 14-16**, Judas interrupts the meeting of the chief priests to make his bargain to betray Jesus. The bargain is made for 30 pieces of silver.