

# *The Establishment*

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Version: 14 October 2005  
14 October 2005

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Bible Text: Complete Jewish Bible (1998)  
David H. Stern

## Index

## ***The Past is our Future***

Yes indeed. The past is our future, and also our present. We know this to be certain, for:

*Ecclesiastes 1:9 What has been is what will be, what has been done is what will be done, and there is nothing new under the sun.*

*Ecclesiastes 1:10 Is there something of which it is said, "See, this is new"? It existed already in the ages before us.*

*Ecclesiastes 1:11 No one remembers the people of long ago; and those to come will not be remembered by those who come after them.*

The religious establishment is not a new idea. To understand our times, it is instructive to look at times past. We should not be overwhelmed with surprise to discover a semblance when comparing our world and the world of the Gospels. What better place to research a critique of the establishment than read the words Jesus spoke. Jesus, the Judge of the universe, spoke the truth about the religious system of His age.

What would be a miracle of gigantic proportions is if the system had actually changed; not the other way around. In the following chapters, we shall ask the reader to draw parallels between Jesus' critique of the religious structure of His day, and the typical religious temple of the 21st century.

The Pharisees and Sadducees were the religious leaders of God's people. They were respected. Their followers and disciples expected to be lead in the truth. Pure motives and a closeness to God's heart was not doubted. The entire nation of Israel had the unwavering faith that these were the great men of God, installed by Him for Him and His chosen.

But then came Jesus, the very Son of the One, Whom these spiritual leaders were supposed to know. Jesus laid the cards on the table. It was then no secret that the glitzy, fancy show had been shut down. The very opposite of the assumed was the truth. The religious leaders did not have *the* Father as their Father, but rather the father of lies. But no bother, no one noticed. Until Jesus came. And this is the precise reason why they killed the Son of Life.

And this is the focus of the coming chapters. We must not forget - the Pharisees and Sadducees had children. And their children had children. We make the simple supposition that their offspring is living with us till this day. The author cannot imagine how things could be different.

And this is very important to understand. For let us not be conned into building pyramids or wooden edifices. Let us not be lead astray by the

father of deceit and his angels of light. When the Son of Glory returns, we had better be busy going about the Father's business.

### ***Gold and Straw***

Gold is difficult to find. Wood, on the contrary, is relatively easy to find, and harvest. Staying on the surface of things, the chances are good one will only gather wood & stubble. When one decides to dig deep into the mountain of God, or pan in the river of the Holy Spirit, he will find gold.

But here the process has just begun. After uncovering the gold, one must refine it. God is asking, will you be a miner? It is a dirty, smelly job, but someone has to do it.

In the following section we will discuss the story of a carpenter, who built with gold, and of priests clothed in gold, who built with stubble. And the study of the story, happenings from 2000 years ago, has relevance to us today.

### ***John the Baptist***

In Matthew 3:7-12 we find the confrontation between the Kingdom of Light and the establishment. John comes out swinging and describes the Pharisees and Sadducees as snakes. The animal "snake" is an obvious reference to Satan in Genesis 3, of which the Torah teachers were certainly aware.

Continuing to baffle the hapless observers, he went out to advertise the fact that the *religious leaders* were on their way to judgment and punishment. The Pharisees and Sadducees had deceived themselves in believing that they were right with God on account of having Abraham as their father.

The establishment is always beating around the bush and creating strange teachings about what it takes to be right with God. The message has been the same since the beginning of time. Turn from sin to God and prove it with fruit. This is the message of the Kingdom. But in fantasy kingdom, in some way shape or form, sin is tolerated. The goal of this tolerance is to bring the person to the point where the ax must swing and the furnace heated.

Take careful notice of the designation of the *prophetic* ministry of Jesus. The winnowing fork is an instrument of separation. The wheat have one destiny, the straw another. Religious systems hate division. They hate those who cause division. But division is an integral part of holiness; holiness means *being set apart*. Here we feel a stark contrast between the light and the darkness.

The pyramid structure has the prophets in their sights. The religious

leaders did not appreciate the labors of John. What does a person with strange eating and poor dressing habits have to say anyway? Since the central message of the prophet is the call to separation and holiness, the pyramid cannot afford to let them in the door at risk of losing all the followers.

### ***Attention***

Lets review the entirety of Matthew 6.

The pivotal verses are statements of contrast. Chapter 6 verses 1-5 and 16-18 repeat the contrast between rewards in heaven and rewards on earth. 19-23 speaks of wealth and the heart in heaven and on earth. The famous 24th verse is a contrast between money as our god, and God as our Lord.

Even though the establishment owned all of the tapestry and religious works, in the end, they were on the wrong side of the comparison.

One should not oversee that all of these religious tasks (alms, praying, fasting) are in themselves good. Pagans are well versed at appearing to be doing good. But the establishment of the times has twisted the real meaning. The leaders are in honesty true manipulators. They use Ministry Services as a means of gaining the attention of man.

The leaders of the establishment seek to win people's praise. But praise should be reserved for God alone. They also love to be seen. They want to be the focus of spiritual attention. When they pray, they believe their many words win God's favor. In their fasting, they expressly show that they are bearing the heavy load of God's service, again so that people will know.

It is interesting that Jesus uses the term "pagan" to describe the establishment. There is a reason for this.

### ***The money connection***

In 6:19, Jesus says to not store up wealth on earth, but rather in Heaven. This is a continuation of the repeated ideas:

- (1) *Yes! I tell you, they have their reward already!*
- (2) *Your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.*

We have here the comparison between earthly rewards and heavenly rewards. If the heart is set on earthly things, one will become religious. If the heart is set on heavenly things, the religious acts will be done in secret, and they will be rewarded accordingly.

Taking this further, we see that the reward of the earthly kind, in the final instance, has to do with finances; for Jesus speaks about wealth being stolen and or otherwise destroyed. So the "great works" of

"ministry" were done with the final goal of financial benefit.

In 6:24, Jesus begins the famous verses concerning "not worrying". In the middle of this speech (6:32), Jesus uses the words "pagans" and "heart" again (*For it is the pagans who set their hearts on all these things.*), terms we noticed above describing those who pray with many words (6:7). And in 6:8, Jesus proclaims this, *Don't be like them, because your Father knows what you need before you ask him.* The prayer in 6:11, *"Give us the food we need today"*, takes care of the things we need.

So those in the synagogues had little faith, and worried about their subsistence. Instead of making their requests known to God, they put on a religious show.

### **Appearances**

*Matthew 9:10-11 While Yeshua was in the house eating, many tax-collectors and sinners came and joined him and his talmidim at the meal. When the P'rushim saw this, they said to his talmidim, "Why does your rabbi eat with tax-collectors and sinners?"*

The establishment, ever looking on the outside, do not understand that righteousness does not hinge on outward appearances. The leaders show their righteousness by the outward man, but do not concern themselves with the inward man.

### **The accusation**

*Matthew 9:33-34 After the demon was expelled the man who had been mute spoke, and the crowds were amazed. "Nothing like this has ever been seen in Isra'el," they said. But the P'rushim said, "It is through the ruler of the demons that he expels demons."*

We should not be misled. Those doing good and showing good fruit will be labeled sons of the devil by the religious establishment.

### **Punishment**

*Matthew 10:17 Be on guard, for there will be people who will hand you over to the local Sanhedrins and flog you in their synagogues.*

The establishment will abuse those doing good. In our day, there are countries in which this does not happen. This is not due to the fact that the religious have put away their violence. It is the rule of law that restrains them, otherwise they would do the same.

And when the abuse is not physical, it is real nonetheless. Smear campaigns are typical.

### **Style**

*Matthew 11:16-18 "Oh, what can I compare this generation with? They're like children sitting in the marketplaces, calling out to each other, 'We made happy music, but you wouldn't dance! We made sad music, but you wouldn't cry!' For Yochanan came, fasting, not drinking – so they say, 'He has a demon.' The Son of Man came, eating freely and drinking wine – so they say, 'Aha! A glutton and a drunkard! A friend of tax-collectors and sinners!' Well, the proof of wisdom is in the actions it produces."*

Jesus is obviously speaking about the establishment here. Notice that He cites the leaders with their own words from Matthew 3:34 and Matthew 9:11. It is clear that, in whatever form God sends His message of repentance, the leaders will reject it. The establishment is more concerned with form than with substance. They judge according to style, not from God's perspective.

They claim, we don't like the way the message was brought. What they really mean, is we don't like the message itself.

### ***Double Standards***

*Matthew 12:1-2 One Shabbat during that time, Yeshua was walking through some wheat fields. His talmidim were hungry, so they began picking heads of grain and eating them. On seeing this, the P'rushim said to him, "Look! Your talmidim are violating Shabbat!"*

*Matthew 12:3-4 But he said to them, "Haven't you ever read what David did when he and those with him were hungry? He entered the House of God and ate the Bread of the Presence, which was prohibited, both to him and to his companions – it is permitted only to the cohanim.*

*Matthew 12:5-6 Or haven't you read in the Torah that on Shabbat the cohanim profane Shabbat and yet are blameless? I tell you, there is in this place something greater than the Temple!*

*Matthew 12:7-8 If you knew what 'I want compassion rather than animal-sacrifice' meant, you would not condemn the innocent. For the Son of Man is Lord of Shabbat!"*

Jesus, as Lord of the Shabbat, is Himself allowed to do as He wishes, and is allowed to give others authorization to perform work on the Shabbat.

*Matthew 12:9-10 Going on from that place, he went into their synagogue. A man there had a shriveled hand. Looking for a reason to accuse him of something, they asked him, "Is healing permitted on Shabbat?"*

*Matthew 12:11-12 But he answered, "If you have a sheep that falls in a pit on Shabbat, which of you won't take hold of it and lift it out? How much more valuable is a man than a sheep! Therefore, what is permitted on Shabbat is to do good."*

*Matthew 12:13-14 Then to the man he said, "Hold out your hand." As he held it out, it became restored, as sound as the other one. But the P'rushim went out and began plotting how they might do away with Yeshua.*

In order to drive home His perspective, Jesus enters the church building and hammers the point. In the end we see that the spiritual leaders are obsessed with holding others hostage to their perverted interpretation of the law. But the perversion is a one-way street. The leaders have a double-standard. One standard is used against the sheep, the other against themselves. And the standard used against themselves is less harsh than the other.

This standard technique is typical with those who wish to obtain a certain amount of control over the sheep. First, the sheep are made to feel guilty when they are not, which puts them in a position of weakness vs. the position of those who "do not fall in sin". Second, by twisting the law, the leaders steer the sheep in the way the leaders want them to go, by teaching them that "God said" when He did not. The phrase, "Obey me and God will be happy with you" can go a very long way in spiritual manipulation.

Now, when Jesus uncovered the double standard, that is the hypocrisy, the leaders plotted to do away with Jesus. For if Jesus continues, they will no longer be able to shear the sheep. And this is bad for the pocketbook.

Furthermore, the levelheaded man, when confronted with what Jesus did, *must* conclude that God is with him. But in their perverted minds, they drew the opposite conclusion.

### ***The Kingdom***

*Matthew 12:22-32 Then some people brought him a man controlled by demons who was blind and mute; and Yeshua healed him, so that he could both speak and see. The crowds were astounded and asked, "This couldn't be the Son of David, could it?"*

*Matthew 12:24-25 But when the P'rushim heard of it, they said, "It is only by Ba'al-zibbul, the ruler of the demons, that this man drives out demons." However, knowing what they were thinking, Yeshua said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself will be ruined, and every city or household divided against itself will not survive.*

*Matthew 12:26-27 If Satan drives out Satan, he is divided against himself; so how can his kingdom survive? Besides, if I drive out demons by Ba'al-zibbul, by whom do your people drive them out? So, they will be your judges!*

*Matthew 12:28-29 But if I drive out demons by the Spirit of God, then the Kingdom of God has come upon you! "Or again, how can someone break into a strong man's house and make off with his possessions unless he first ties*

up the strong man? After that he can ransack his house.

*Matthew 12:30-32 "Those who are not with me are against me, and those who do not gather with me are scattering. Because of this, I tell you that people will be forgiven any sin and blasphemy, but blaspheming the Ruach Hakodesh will not be forgiven. One can say something against the Son of Man and be forgiven; but whoever keeps on speaking against the Ruach Hakodesh will never be forgiven, neither in the 'olam hazeh nor in the 'olam haba.*

There is a division between good and evil, between the Kingdom of God and the kingdom of satan. Since the establishment wanted to smear Jesus in the eyes of the onlookers, they portrayed Him as the devil himself, using His power over demons - and implicitly their lack of authority - as their proof. It is true that Jesus is of a different kingdom as opposed to the kingdom of the establishment. But the establishment twists the truth. Jesus is of God's Kingdom, and the spiritual leaders who reject Him are of the devil's kingdom. And whoever is not gathering with Jesus, is scattering.

*Matthew 12:33-35 "If you make a tree good, its fruit will be good; and if you make a tree bad, its fruit will be bad; for a tree is known by its fruit. You snakes! How can you who are evil say anything good? For the mouth speaks what overflows from the heart. The good person brings forth good things from his store of good, and the evil person brings forth evil things from his store of evil.*

*Matthew 12:36-38 Moreover, I tell you this: on the Day of Judgment people will have to give account for every careless word they have spoken; for by your own words you will be acquitted, and by your own words you will be condemned."*

Here, the religious establishment is laid bare for all to see. It is declared evil by Jesus the Judge, even though it pretends to be good. They bring evil fruit and out of their hearts they say evil things. And for this they will be condemned. It cannot be said loud enough - *all the observers and followers of this system were absolutely convinced that the evil fruit cultivated was actually good. The same is true today.*

*Matthew 12:38-40 At this some of the Torah-teachers said, "Rabbi, we want to see a miraculous sign from you." He replied, "A wicked and adulterous generation asks for a sign? No! None will be given to it but the sign of the prophet Yonah. For just as Yonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the sea-monster, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the depths of the earth.*

*Matthew 12:41-42 The people of Ninveh will stand up at the Judgment with this generation and condemn it, for they turned from their sins to God when Yonah preached, but what is here now is greater than Yonah. The Queen of the South will stand up at the Judgment with this generation and condemn it, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of*

*Shlomo, but what is here now is greater than Shlomo.*

It is clear then that those who were obviously sinners - the queen of the south and the people of Ninveh - are going to stand judgment against the supposedly righteous religious establishment. They are then, self-righteous, or only righteous in their own eyes. But they will not judge themselves, they will be judged by others.

A word of caution: Jesus said that *an evil generation seeks a sign*. The reverse, *a sign seeker is evil*, cannot be concluded.

### ***Focus***

Matthew 15:1-20

In striving to be clean, the establishment focuses on outward things - thus their insistence on the washing of hands as if it were a prerequisite to living holy.

Additionally, they use pretexts for performing God's service as a means to void God's precepts.

Verses 13-14 are hard words. The religious leaders are not planted by God, and will be removed. Not only that, he calls them blind guides. They are surely guides, but guides leading the way in the pit.

### ***Signs***

Matthew 16:1-4

The establishment did not ask for any kind of sign. They wanted a sign out of the heavens. The good works Jesus did were not enough. At this, the sly reply referred to the natural heavens of the sky, and then continued that the only sign that would be given would not be a sign from the heavens, but a sign from the deep. The establishment is always looking in the wrong direction.

You see my friend, the establishment is looking for glory and power, not good deeds done out of compassion and love.

Their way to righteousness is not a ticket straight up, but rather first a detour into the depths.

### ***Discernment***

*Luke 10:21-23 At that moment he was filled with joy by the Ruach Hakodesh and said, "Father, Lord of heaven and earth, I thank you because you **concealed these things from the sophisticated and educated, yet revealed them to ordinary people**. Yes, Father, I thank you that it pleased you to do this. "My Father has handed over everything to me. Indeed, no one fully*

knows who the Son is except the Father, and who the Father is except the Son and those to whom the Son wishes to reveal him." Then, turning to the talmidim, he said, privately, "How blessed are the eyes that see what you are seeing!"

Wow! Did you get that? God actively **conceals** "these things" from the sophisticated and educated, but **reveals** it to the ordinary. Guess in which camp the establishment leaders find themselves.

Now let us look at Hannah who happened to be a prophet of the ordinary type.

*Luke 2:36-38 There was also a prophet named Hannah Bat-p'nu'el, of the tribe of Asher. She was a very old woman – she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage and had remained a widow ever since; now she was eighty-four. She never left the Temple grounds but worshipped there night and day, fasting and praying. She came by at that moment and began thanking God and speaking about the child to everyone who was waiting for Yerushalayim to be liberated.*

A fasting praying widow (a woman no less) recognized the Messiah. The scholars did not. The greatest move of God in the history of the universe and the establishment missed it. Only the little old lady, probably considered punished by God due to her widow status, got it. And when she starting telling the people, the establishment did not agree. Otherwise they would not have murdered Him. Don't expect the leaders of the pyramid systems to know which way the Holy Spirit is moving.

Note to the reader: this is a working document. From this point on, the rest of the document needs much work. Please bear this in mind.

### ***My Sheep***

All the sheep were going after Jesus.

### ***Money***

The Pharisees offered money to turn a disciple away from Jesus.

### ***The Priests in Acts***

Peter, Paul & Stephen are betrayed by the spiritual leaders.

### ***Levels of class***

In what company are the establishment leaders placed. Alas, the hypocrites, tax-collectors and prostitutes are their kindred.

### ***Religion***

Religion kills **the way, the life and the truth**. John 5:35-40. They do not want you to find the way, the life and the truth. This is the broad way.

They neither knew the scriptures, nor the power.

## ***The Chosen***

To bring this research to a close, we mention one last detail. We do not quote a scripture, for one does not exist. This does not mean it is unbiblical. The bible speaks very loudly between the lines. This last point wraps up all the rest.

Whom did Jesus choose to be his disciples? Or to bring the point more vividly to the attention of the reader: *whom did He not chose?* Did He decide for the leaders in the establishment? The Torah teachers? Out of the circle of Pharisees or Sadducees? Those who had been to the best Torah Schools, or were heads of the largest, or fastest growing, Synagogues? Or those having house-hold names and international followings?

It seems obvious that the number of books authored, the number of teaching tapes sold, the number of countries visited per year did not weigh very heavily when determining who was going to get the most important job of all-time. Save the traitor, we are all connected in history as an offspring of, and by the testimony from, one of the first 12. Only the best would do. The establishment not only did not make the first cut, but was the antagonist in the story. The establishment not only did not want the job, but did not want anyone else to do it either. So they punished, jailed, lied about, smeared and killed those who did.

If Jesus were here on earth today and had the task of picking out his 12, would He peruse the top-10 lists in the Christian magazines: largest churches, fastest growing churches, fastest growing churches having over 500 members, number of missionaries sent out. I doubt it. The chances are very high that the Son of Man would have to look elsewhere for the important jobs. But, to make the point more personal, would you have been chosen?

The disciples were people who were not part of the system. They were not concerned about looking good in the eyes of their peers and followers. Those infected with religion are of no use to Jesus for laboring in His Kingdom. In the end, when you sum up the various points in this book, those in the establishment were busy about building their own personal kingdoms, all the while using a facade of God's kingdom. Men are easily fooled. We acknowledge this rock-solid truth by reading about it in the Gospels, and by what we see today in the standard organization we call "church".

## Notes

- Jeremiah 23:2-3
- 1 Cor 14 encouragement to turn from iniquities
- Ezekiel 34
- John 7:39 work of spirit -> glorify Jesus, testify about Jesus / Jesus testified about God, the Spirit testifies about Jesus
- John
  - 8:44 religious establishment
  - 10:26 not my sheep
  - 12:10-11 kill those who are healed
- 2 Corinthians 12:14 looking for honor
- Nehemiah
  - 3:5 Nobels
  - 5:14-15 Government
  - 6:5-9 Fear
  - 6:17-19 Nobels
  - 7:64 Tithe
  - 9:17 Government
  - 9:26/30 Prophets
  - 9:36-37 Government
  - 10:29 Holiness to the law
  - 10:33-38 Temple tax
  - 13:4-9 Tithe
- Jesus as a stumbling block (chief cornerstone)
  - forgiving sins
  - king (law giver, judge) of israel (people of God,)
  - son of God
  - King of Sabbath / work and rest
- luke 9:6 Judas the wolf
- Luke 10:8-12 town churches
- High Priest broke the law (killed Jesus, gave false testimony) to save the law (his own law)
- John 7:End

## ***Establishment verses***

Matthew

16:12, 19:3-8, 19-:16:22, 21:12-13, 21:16-16, 21:23-27, 21:28-46,  
22:1-14, 22:15-22, 22:23-32, 22:33-40, 23:1-39, 26:3-4, 26:14-16,  
26:59, 27:1-7, 27:20, 27:42-43

Temple Tax

Acts

4:1-22, 5:17-24, 5:25-42, 6:8- 7:60, 8:3-4, 9:1-2, 12:1-5, 13:50,  
14:1-5, 17:13, 17:16-34, 18:6, 18:12-17, 19:13-16, 19:23-41, 21:27-31,  
21:35-36, 22:22, 23:2, 23:12, 24:1-?, 25:27

P'rushim (pharisees) - focused on Torah as it applied to ordinary folk;  
foundation of modern day judaism. Deny the resurrection and the  
existence of angels and spirits.

Tz'dukim (sadducees) - focused on temple rituals; richer, skeptical,  
worldly, cooperated more with the roman conquerers; faded into  
nothingness after the temple was destroyed. Acknowledge the  
resurrection and the existence of angels and spirits.

Cohanim - priest

Sanhedrin - Jewish religious court

Synagogue -

Temple -

hametz (yeast) - teaching Matt 16:12

Matt. 3:5 People went out to him from Yerushalayim, from all Y'udah,  
and from the whole region around the Yarden.

Matt. 3:6 Confessing their sins, they were immersed by him in the  
Yarden River.

Matt. 3:7 But when Yochanan saw many of the P'rushim and Tz'dukim  
coming to be immersed by him, he said to them, "You snakes! Who warned  
you to escape the coming punishment?"

Matt. 3:8 If you have really turned from your sins to God, produce

fruit that will prove it!

Matt. 3:9 And don't suppose you can comfort yourselves by saying, 'Avraham is our father'! For I tell you that God can raise up for Avraham sons from these stones!

Matt. 3:10 Already the axe is at the root of the trees, ready to strike; every tree that doesn't produce good fruit will be chopped down and thrown in the fire!

Matt. 3:11 It's true that I am immersing you in water so that you might turn from sin to God; but the one coming after me is more powerful than I – I'm not worthy even to carry his sandals – and he will immerse you in the Ruach Hakodesh and in fire.

Matt. 3:12 He has with him his winnowing fork; and he will clear out his threshing floor, gathering his wheat into the barn but burning up the straw with unquenchable fire!"

Matt. 3:13 Then Yeshua came from the Galil to the Yarden to be immersed by Yochanan.

Matt. 16:1 Then some P'rushim and Tz'dukim came to trap Yeshua by asking him to show them a miraculous sign from Heaven.

Matt. 16:2 But his response was, "When it is evening, you say, 'Fair weather ahead,' because the sky is red;

Matt. 16:3 and in the morning you say, 'Storm today!' because the sky is red and overcast. You know how to read the appearance of the sky, but you can't read the signs of the times!

Matt. 16:4 A wicked and adulterous generation is asking for a sign? It will certainly not be given a sign – except the sign of Yonah!" With that he left them and went off.

Matt. 16:5 The talmidim, in crossing to the other side of the lake, had forgotten to bring any bread.

Matt. 16:6 So when Yeshua said to them, "Watch out! Guard yourselves against the hametz of the P'rushim and Tz'dukim,"

Matt. 16:7 they thought he said it because they hadn't brought bread.

Matt. 16:8 But Yeshua, aware of this, said, "Such little trust you have! Why are you talking with each other about not having bread?"

Matt. 16:9 Don't you understand yet? Don't you remember the five loaves of the five thousand and how many baskets you filled?

Matt. 16:10 Or the seven loaves of the four thousand and how many baskets you filled?

Matt. 16:11 How can you possibly think I was talking to you about bread? Guard yourselves from the hametz of the P'rushim and Tz'dukim!"

Matt. 16:12 Then they understood – they were to guard themselves not from yeast for bread but from the teaching of the P'rushim and Tz'dukim.

Matt. 22:29 Yeshua answered them, "The reason you go astray is that you are ignorant both of the Tanakh and of the power of God.

Matt. 26:7 A woman with an alabaster jar filled with very expensive perfume approached Yeshua while he was eating and began pouring it on his head.

Matt. 26:8 When the talmidim saw it, they became very angry. "Why this waste?" they asked.

Matt. 26:9 "This could have been sold for a lot of money and given to the poor."

Matt. 26:10 But Yeshua, aware of what was going on, said to them, "Why are you bothering this woman? She has done a beautiful thing for me.

Matt. 26:11 The poor you will always have with you, but you will not always have me.

Matt. 26:12 She poured this perfume on me to prepare my body for burial.

Matt. 26:13 Yes! I tell you that throughout the whole world, wherever this Good News is proclaimed, what she has done will be told in her memory."

Matt. 26:14 Then one of the Twelve, the one called Y'hudah from K'riot, went to the head cohanim

Matt. 26:15 and said, "What are you willing to give me if I turn Yeshua over to you?" They counted out thirty silver coins and gave them to Y'hudah.

John 11:45 At this, many of the Judeans who had come to visit Miryam, and had seen what Yeshua had done, trusted in him.

John 11:46 But some of them went off to the P'rushim and told them what he had done.

John 11:47 So the head cohanim and the P'rushim called a meeting of the Sanhedrin and said, "What are we going to do? – for this man is performing many miracles.

John 11:48 If we let him keep going on this way, everyone will trust in him, and the Romans will come and destroy both the Temple and the nation."

John 11:49 But one of them, Kayafa, who was cohen gadol that year, said to them, "You people don't know anything!

John 11:50 You don't see that it's better for you if one man dies on behalf of the people, so that the whole nation won't be destroyed."

John 11:51 Now he didn't speak this way on his own initiative; rather, since he was cohen gadol that year, he was prophesying that Yeshua was about to die on behalf of the nation,

John 11:52 and not for the nation alone, but so that he might gather into one the scattered children of God.

John 11:53 From that day on, they made plans to have him put to death.

Acts 4:15 So they told them to step away from the Sanhedrin while they discussed the matter privately.

Acts 4:16 "What can we do with these men?" they asked each other. "Why, anyone in Yerushalayim can see that a remarkable miracle has come about through them – we can't possibly deny that.

Acts 4:17 But to prevent it from spreading any further among the people, let's warn them not to speak any more to anyone in this name."

Acts 4:18 So they called them in again and ordered them under no circumstances to speak or teach in the name of Yeshua.

Acts 5:12 Meanwhile, through the emissaries many signs and miracles continued to be done among the people. United in mind and purpose, the believers met in Shlomo's Colonnade;

Acts 5:13 and no one else dared to join them. Nevertheless, the people continued to regard them highly;

Acts 5:14 and throngs of believers were added to the Lord, both men and women.

Acts 5:15 They went so far as to bring the sick into the streets and lay them on mattresses and stretchers, so that at least Kefa's shadow

might fall on them as he passed by.

Acts 5:16 Crowds also gathered from the towns around Yerushalayim, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits; and every one of them was healed.

Acts 5:17 But the cohen hagadol and his associates, who were members of the party of the Tz'dukim, were filled with jealousy.

Acts 5:18 They arrested the emissaries and put them in the public jail.