

QUESTION 5

- a) Jesus is in control of every detail of His death. From the timing of it (compare **John 7:8**) to the authority to lay his life down and take it up again (**John 10:18**).
- b) In this passage we see that He is in control of these events at the meal. He is not taken by surprise.
- c) Judas knows exactly what Jesus means. He has been exposed as the betrayer and he immediately left the room.

QUESTION 6

- a) Not only is it dark over Jerusalem because the sun has gone down.
- b) It was dark in Judas' heart. He was under the power of darkness. Note Jesus comments at his subsequent arrest in **Luke 22:53**.
- c) John, in his gospel, often refers to light and darkness imagery (e.g. **John 1:5**).
- d) Light is mentioned 16 times.
- e) It is always night when a person rejects God's love and goes into the darkness of eternity without God.

GROUP LEADER'S NOTES – STUDY 2

QUESTION 1

- a) The word for 'troubled' speaks of severe mental or spiritual turmoil.
- b) What is troubling Jesus?
 - His love for Judas that is unrequited.
 - The work of Satan in Judas' heart.
 - The knowledge that the betrayal would lead to the cross where He would bear the sin of the world (**John 12:27; 2 Corinthians 5:21**).
 - That on the cross would be separation from the Father (Matthew 27:46).
- c) *"Though John pictures Jesus as in control of the situation, he does not want us to think of Him as unmoved by the events through which He is passing"* (Morris).

QUESTION 2

- a) The disciples were understandably stunned by what Jesus said. You can imagine the silence.
- b) They were alone in the room with Jesus. It must be one of those that they had lived amongst and worked alongside for three years.
- c) Notice how they started looking at one another.
- d) Typically, it is Peter who takes the initiative and breaks the silence. But not directly.
- e) He suggests to John that he ask Jesus who it would be.
- f) John refers to himself with this phrase 'whom Jesus loved' five times in his gospel.
- g) Each is connected with the cross in some way (**John 13:23; 19:26; 20:2; 21:7; 20**).
- h) *"We know that it must have been John, for many reasons; but still he does not say so. He hides John behind the love of Jesus, which proves that John gloried in the love of Christ, but did not boast of it egotistically"* (Spurgeon).

QUESTION 3

- a) The custom was to lean on the left side and eat with the right hand.
- b) John would have been on the right of Jesus because verse 25 suggests that he leant back and spoke to Jesus.
- c) Jesus' answer to John in verse 26 is evidently said quietly so that no-one else in the room hears it.
- d) If we look on in verse 28, we see that what Jesus then said to Judas and did for him in verses 26-27, comes as a surprise. They have no idea why Jesus does this.
- e) This is reinforced in verse 29, in that the other disciples think that it might have something to do with the money that Judas is responsible for looking after, on behalf of the group.

QUESTION 4

- a) The fact that Judas was within arm's reach of Jesus suggests he was seated on the immediate left.
- b) It is significant that being placed on the left of the host at a meal was a position of special honour.
- c) Jesus seated Judas in the privileged position.
- d) Many commentators think that this suggests that Judas would therefore have been the first person whose feet were washed by Jesus; a sign of the extent of his love for His disciples (**John 13:1**).
- e) The morsel was a piece of unleavened bread dipped in a mixture of bitter herb, vinegar, water, salt, crushed dates, figs and raisins.
- f) Again; to be given the morsel by the host was to be singled out for special honour.
- g) Jesus makes this gesture to Judas and shows him kindness to the bitter end.
- h) Judas' heart remains hardened and he spurns Jesus' gesture of love. He is under the control of Satan.
- i) Judas was betraying Jesus in fulfilment of Scripture (**Psalms 41:9**). In that sense, Judas' sin was foreordained. And yet, Judas was fully responsible for his sin.