



“The Last Dance!”

Luke 22:7-14

Observations on “The Last Dance!”



- The phrase is a metaphor, coined by Chicago Bulls Coach Phil Jackson, to describe their last great season together winning the NBA Championship before they were dismantled by the ownership
- This, the latest, greatest hit on the American scene for sports enthusiasts across this country, is the acclaimed documentary series on the career of Michael Jordan, with particular interest in their 1997-1998 championship basketball season
- This series chronicles the rise of Michael Jordan, from college freshman to superstar status as a professional, called by many, “*the greatest of all time*” (won six NBA CHAMPIONSHIPS)
- The series takes a personal look at this iconic superstar, who changed pop culture in everything from our hairstyles (bald look popularity), to the advent of sneakers in modern dress (NIKE), to the popularity of sports drinks (GATORADE)

Observations on The Last Dance!

The documentary takes a broader look at the Chicago Bulls team from its owner, its general manager, its coach, and the mentality of the team itself

It looks at the chemistry that was necessary for the squad to be so good (62W-20L)

The “chinks in the armor” that caused the team and the organization to dismantle

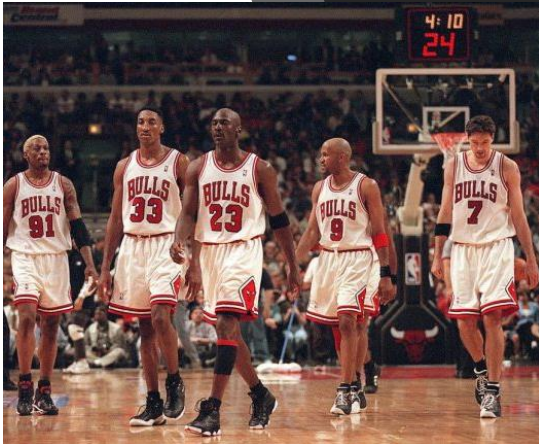
It discusses in some detail the personal lives that were affected by the challenge to be successful

It seeks to explain to the viewer what was going on “behind the scenes” of winning a championship

It gives significant insights to the roles of other players like Scottie Pippen, Dennis Rodman, Toni Kukoc, Steve Kerr, Horace Grant and Coach Phil Jackson

What behaviors did these men manifest that either helped or hurt the team on its mission?

How Michael Jordan’s influence was viewed by his teammates, the coaches, the owners, and the fans?

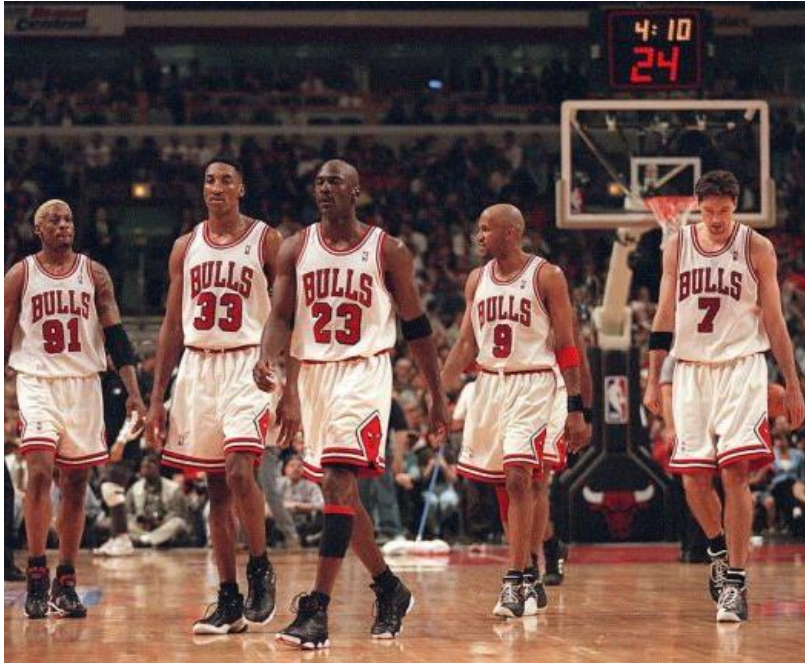




Observations

- The Phrase, “The Last Dance” can also be used as a metaphor to describe the last days that Jesus and the 12 apostles were together
- Their last moments were filled with the different mindsets of ambition, greed, fear, deceit, selfishness, and other behaviors, that defined them and us as well, as we seek to live for God
- Maybe by studying Jesus’ “Last Dance” with His disciples, we can discover ourselves and make the changes in our lives that are necessary to serve Him completely

The Chicago Bulls, The Last Dance! (Different Mindsets)



- Toni Kukoc-Loved by the General Manager; couldn't carry the team, good scorer; role player
- Scottie Pippen-On NBA ALL STAR TEAM, second best player on the team; and knew it; had issues with management
- Dennis Rodman-Excellent rebounder, sensitive, eccentric, sometimes a rebel
- Steve Kerr-Good shooter, had famous fight with Jordan that matured him
- Horace Grant-Good rebounder; needed to be pushed to succeed
- Craig Hodges-Excellent spot shooter; not the best dribbler
- Bill Cartright-Tall center; relationship with Jordan shaky at times; "medical Bill"
- Michael Jordan-The superstar, couldn't win without him; the alpha male



Jesus' Team Present at The Last Supper!

Peter

James the Son of Zebedee

John

Judas

Thomas

Matthew

Andrew

Philip

Simon the Zealot

Bartholomew

James the Son of Alphaeus

Thaddaeus



Judas Iscariot

- Jesus knew from the beginning that Judas would betray Him.
John 2:24-25; John 6:64

If That Be True, Why Let Him In The Group?

#1 Jesus knew that He had to fulfill Old Testament Prophecy

“Even my close friend, someone I trusted, one who shared my bread, has turned against me.

Psalms 41:9

“While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by that name you gave me. None have been lost except the one doomed to destruction so that scripture would be fulfilled.”

John 17:12 ;

Acts 1:20

Observations

- Fulfilling Old Testament prophecy was part of His mission on earth
- Jesus submitted Himself to the will of His father, whether it was pleasurable or not, for His Father's glorification

The Principle:

If Jesus Followed God's Plan For His Life, We Must Too!

- As God's showed His Son, Jesus, WE TOO are called to do some things, unpleasurable to us, but are pleasurable to God;

Hebrews 5:8-9, 2Timothy 3:12,
"..Yea and all who will live Godly in Christ shall suffer persecution."

We Too, Are Called To Do Some Unpleasurable Acts For God's Glory!

- Like Loving God First and Family Second

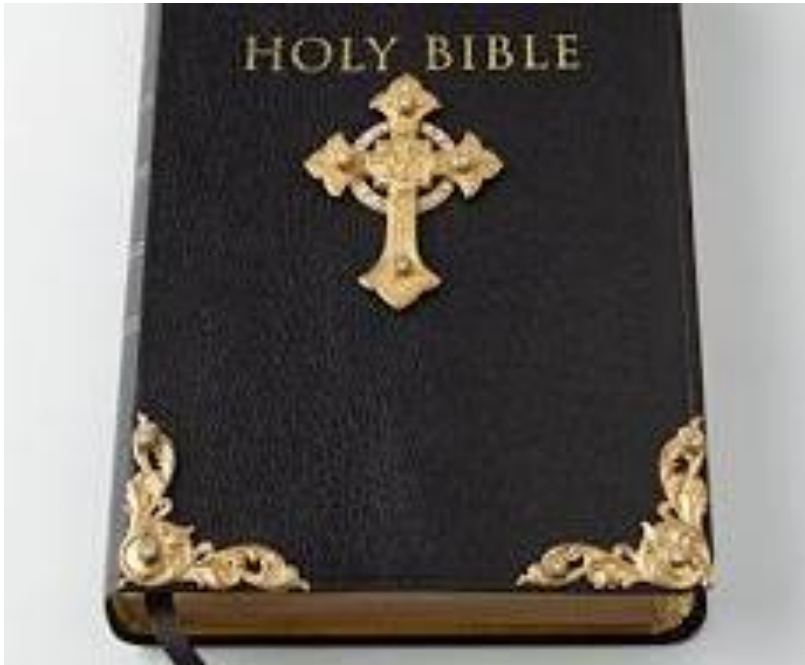
"Think not that I have come to send peace on earth; I came not to send peace but a sword. For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law.

A man's foes shall be they of his own household.

He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. He that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me is not worthy of me."

Matthew 10:34-38





Observations

- Don't let your family get between you and Jesus
- Don't let the perks of your job get between you and Jesus
- Don't let your friends get between you and Jesus
- Don't let your habitual desires get between you and Jesus

Jesus Is The Most Important Thing You Have!

Jesus Says Here, That If You Let Something or Someone Get Between You and Him, YOU DON'T DESERVE HIM!

(His Blessings and Providential Guidance!)

Another Reason To Let Judas in the Group With Prior Knowledge Of His Betrayal:

#2 To Show That Association With the Godly Doesn't Equal Godliness!

- Judas' life shows that you can be in the service of the Lord (work for) but not have the Lord in your heart
- Judas was in the service of the Lord, but Jesus was not ruling his heart

Judas along with the others was given power to preach, heal the sick, and cast out demons, Mark 3:14-15

Being next to grace doesn't make you gracious (married to or child of grace)

- You can be in the Lord, but the Lord not in you!

CHRIST IN YOU IS THE HOPE OF GLORY!
Colossians 1:27

One More
Reason
That
Jesus Let
Judas In:

**#3 To Show Judas Specifically,
That He Loved Him**

John 13:21

“One of you is going to betray me.”

**The Disciples Wanted to Know,
Which One?**

John 13:26-27

“Jesus answered, “It is the one to whom I will give this piece of bread when I have dipped it in the dish.” Then, dipping the piece of bread, he gave it to Judas, son of Simon Iscariot. As soon as Judas took the bread, Satan entered into him.”



Observations

- **What a powerful moment this was in Judas' life that was missed**
- **Jesus lets Judas know that his sin against him was already known**
- **The question for Judas then was, *"Now that I know, that you know, what am I going to do about it?"***
- **We too are convicted by God and His word, Hebrews 4:12-13**

"....Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of Him to whom we must give account."



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**When God's Word
Convicts Us Of Sin In Our
Lives, That Means That He
Knows What We Know!**

***When We Receive The
Bread From Jesus, What
Will We Do About it?***



**The Plan
Of
Salvation!**

Hear the Gospel

1 Corinthians 15:1-4

Believe the Gospel

Acts 15:7

Repent of Sins

Acts 17:30

Confess Christ

Matthew 10:32

Be Baptized

Acts 2:38