The Hands Upon The Table

Luke 22:21-34

Intro. A. The earlier verses have to do with the Passover and the new meaning given to it by Jesus, the Christ.

Vs. 7, 8 11. They had gathered for the Passover.
Vs. 19-20 12. At its conclusion, Jesus gave some of its elements a new meaning, i.e. the unleavened bread and the cup.

B. This is an intimate and exclusive body of men gathered in this upper room.
Vs. 14 11. He sat down with the twelve Apostles.
2. "Apostles" = ἀπόστολος = primarily an adj. Then a subst. = "one sent", "messenger" "an ambassador", from ἀποστέλλω = "to send away".
Vs. 15-16 13. It is the last supper for Jesus.

C. Jesus made a startling statement to them.
Vs. 21 11."Yet look! The hand of the man who is betraying—God, lies with mine at this moment on the table—Phillips,
Vs. 22 12. Jesus pronounced a woe upon the man.
"Woe" = οὐάλ = wo! alas = uttered in grief or indignation.
Vs. 23 13. This caused the Apostles to enquire among themselves. No doubt they looked at the hands on the table as they did so. σοφος = "to seek anything with another", "to seek together."
14. This seems to be an honest attempt to identify the person, perhaps to protect Jesus and to interrupt the intention of the betrayer.
15. The hands on the table offer no evidence. They give no indication of the heart, no tremor of guilt, no sweating palms!
B. Jesus set the record straight.

V. 25. 1. "The negative illustration: "The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them," Kuplēvō = "to have dominion over", "to hold power over".

2. "... and they that exercise authority upon them are called "benefactors". Eυπρεπῆς = "a well done".

3. They ruled them only because they wanted to do the people good! These 12 quarreled about who was the greatest because they wanted to be benevolent rulers of the other 11 apostles!

C. The prohibition of Jesus.

V. 26. 1. "But ye shall not be so".

2. "Younger" = νεώτερος = (comp. of νέος, "new, recent, younger")

3. "Chief" = ἤγερος = "to go before", "to lead the way", hence, to preside, rule,

4. "... as he that doth serve" & σκονδεσιν

D. The example of Jesus.

V. 27. 1. A question.

V. 28. 2. What Jesus had done.

II. The Hands upon the Table.

A. They are human hands.

V. 28. 1. They are not super saints.

2. They are not sinless saints.

3. They were continuing saints.

Συνέπεσε = to remain through or throughout, to remain the same, not to make a change.

4. "Temptations" = έπλασμός = "a putting to the test", "proof", "trial".