

## Judas – Part 2

### John 18:1-14

**Introduction:** Two weeks ago, we talked about the 2<sup>nd</sup> word in the first verse – ‘Jesus.’ Last week we talked about the 2<sup>nd</sup> word in the 2<sup>nd</sup> verse – ‘Judas.’

We didn’t finish talking about Judas and there two more important thing to say about him before we move on.

First: His Person -

Second: His Passion - he loved money

Third: His Pattern – he was a thief

Fourth: His Choice – selling Jesus for 30 pieces of silver

Fifth: His Possession – the devil possessed him twice

- When he sold Jesus to the Pharisees
- At the Last Supper

#### **Sixth: His Death**

Matthew 27:3-10 - *Then when Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus was condemned, he changed his mind and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders, <sup>4</sup> saying, “I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.” They said, “What is that to us? See to it yourself.” <sup>5</sup> And throwing down the pieces of silver into the temple, he departed, and he went and hanged himself. <sup>6</sup> But the chief priests, taking the pieces of silver, said, “It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since it is blood money.” <sup>7</sup> So they took counsel and bought with them the potter's field as a burial place for strangers. <sup>8</sup> Therefore that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. <sup>9</sup> Then was fulfilled what had been spoken by the prophet Jeremiah, saying, “And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of him on whom a price had been set by some of the sons of Israel, <sup>10</sup> and they gave them for the potter's field, as the Lord directed me.”*

- a) v 3 - Judas’s ‘changed his mind’ implies no Satanic possession
- b) v 4 - His confession also.
- c) V 5 – His guilt, the same.

**1 Samuel 30:1-16** – David ‘saves’ the Egyptian from the Amalekites.

#### **Seventh: His Perdition**

John 17:12 – *While I was with them, I kept them in your name, which you have given me. I have guarded them, and not one of them has been lost except the son of destruction, that the Scripture might be fulfilled.*

*“destruction” / “perdition” = apolia = perishing, ruin, destruction (which consists of misery in Hell)*

*Mark 14:3-4 - And while he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he was reclining at table, a woman came with an alabaster flask of ointment of pure nard, very costly, and she broke the flask and poured it over his head. There were some who said to themselves indignantly, “Why was the ointment **wasted** like that?”*

That name is given to only one other person in the NT, the anti-Christ.

*2 Thessalonians 2:3 - Let no one deceive you in any way. For that day will not come, unless the rebellion comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction [perdition], <sup>4</sup> who opposes and exalts himself against every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, proclaim*

**VS 1-2** - *When Jesus had spoken these words, he went out with his disciples across the brook Kidron, where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. <sup>2</sup> Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, for Jesus often met there with his disciples.*

2 – Jesus evidently took his disciples to the Garden of Gethsemane on enough previous occasions that Judas knew where to find Jesus when he was prayerfully making monumental decisions.

Because of the prophet Joel’s challenge (Joel 3:14), the Jews already call Kidron Valley, ‘The Valley of Decision.’

3 – Judas had been possessed by Satan when he initially made the deal for Jesus with the Sadducees and again at the Last Supper, perhaps as the necessary motivation to go through with what he had promised. But there is no mention of that possession in this text.

Why did Judas betray Jesus?

- a) We can’t be certain about any reason if there was only one reason.
- b) Judas never called Jesus, ‘Lord,’ but instead ‘Rabbi.’
- c) Other disciples made great/public professions of faith (John 6:68; 11:16) but not Judas.
- d) The indication is that he never trusted Christ as Savior.
- e) He had no real relationship with Jesus – The disciples are always listed in the same general order – Matt 10:2-4; Mark 3:16-19; Luke 6:14-16 – Peter, James and John

are always listed first, and Judas is always listed last, an indication that he was far from Christ.

- f) The only documented dialogues between Jesus and Judas is when
  - \* Jesus rebuked Judas when he complained about Mary's anointing of the Lord (John 12:1-8),
  - \* his denial of the betrayal (Matt 26:25) and
  - \* the betrayal itself (Luke 22:48)
- g) Judas was consumed with greed – John 12:5-6 and may have followed and betrayed Jesus simply for the money
- h) He may have, like a lot of Jews in his time, been a super-patriot and thought Jesus would overthrow the Romans if confronted by them.
- i) He may have wanted to close to Jesus in the new reigning kingdom.

Last week I mentioned that *Iscariot* may refer to a village named Keriot in Judea where Judas could have been from. He would be, in Hebrew, "a man from Kerioth" (*'ish qeriyot*). In this construct Judas would have been the only apostle not from Galilee,

But *Iscariot* may be derived from Judas's membership in the *sicarii*, or "dagger wielders," a band of religious terrorists of the time and may have been aligned with the Zealots, a fanatical group that had included another apostle, Simon.

- j) This could explain his shock at Jesus's death sentence and his attempt to return the money
- k) In that case, Judas was no different than the people who lined the streets to Jerusalem when Jesus entered the city (Matt 21:1-11). When he proved of no value to their immediate needs, when he was not who they wanted him to be, they betrayed him (Matt 27:20).
- l) But Judas request for money doesn't square with the super-patriot thought.

John 12:5-6 – Judas was "*a thief.*"

Judas became the ultimate model of 1 Timothy 6:10 - "*The love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.*"

m) As with all betrayals of Christ, Judas's betrayal did not result in Jesus's death as much as it did Judas's death. He literally sealed his own fate.

This we know. Jesus counted Judas's betrayal as a 'betrayal' for which he was personally responsible.

Mark 14:18 – *"I tell you the truth, one of you will betray me—one who is eating with me"*

Mark 14:21 - *"Woe to that man who betrays the Son of Man! It would be better for him if he had not been born"*

### **Conclusion:**

Not every part of Judas's story has direct application for us. Jesus doesn't intend for us to appoint thieves as treasurers. Then again, God can do that because He is wise enough to do that.

Let's close with two thoughts:

*Judas's masquerade is a lesson for us. Wolves can look and sound almost exactly like sheep. And sometimes Jesus, for his own reasons, allows the disguised wolves to live among the sheep for a long time and do great damage before their deception is exposed. When this happens, we must trust that the Lord knows what he's doing. Judas reminds us that even ravaging wolves have a part to play in the drama of redemptive history.*

– John Bloom

And, let's contrast Jesus with Judas in one aspect –

Even though he knew Judas would betray him, he still washed Judas' feet before the Last Supper (John 13) in an act of kindness, mercy and perhaps even, invitation.