The Plot to Betray Jesus

John 13:10-11; 18-30

6-22-2025

Introduction:

Why did Judas betray Jesus?

Judas betrayed Jesus because…

I. He was never <u>cleansed</u> of his sin *(10-11)*

II. *Judas betrayed Jesus because…*
He was never a real <u>disciple</u> *(v.18a)*

III. *Judas betrayed Jesus because…*
The Scriptures predicting the betrayal had to be <u>fulfilled</u> *(v.18b)*

IV. *Judas betrayed Jesus because…*
The Lord Jesus would be <u>validated & believed on</u> as a result *(v.19-26)*

V. *Judas betrayed Jesus because…*
<u>Satan</u> entered Judas and moved him into action against Christ *(v.27a)*

VI. *Judas betrayed Jesus because…*
The betrayal was part of God's <u>decreed plan</u> to utilize Judas at a specific time to prepare for Christ's crucifixion *(v.27b-30)*

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Introduction:

Judas was numbered as one of the 12. He was part of the most elite group of people in history--to be a disciple of Christ. He had an important responsibility. He was the treasurer for the 12---and he fell!

Why did Judas betray Jesus?

Judas betrayed Jesus because…

I. He was never <u>cleansed</u> of his sin (10-11)

In the context of Jesus washing the disciples' feet, He used this occasion to teach them a spiritual lesson on the necessity for them to be cleansed from sin (v. 8-10).

v. 10
"Ye are clean" – a reference to salvation. Christ had cleansed 11 of the 12, in that they were forgiven of their sin and had a personal relationship to Him due to that cleansing (cp. V. 8b).

"But not all" – They were entirely clean, but not everyone was.

Judas, due to his unbelief and unrepentant heart, never received a heart cleansing from sin.

John 6:64
But there are some of you that believe not. For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were that believed not, and who should betray him.

Judas betrayed Jesus because…

II. He was never a real <u>disciple</u> (v.18a)

"I speak not of you all" – Not all were washed from their sin; therefore, not all would be motivated to wash anyone else's feet. Not all would experience the happiness that comes from obedience (v. 17).

"Chosen" - Aorist, middle, indicative of *eklego* (to select out for one's self).

Jesus chose Judas to follow Him. Although he is always last on the list (Mk. 3:19), he was on the list of the ordained twelve. In every list he is mentioned as "the betrayer" or "the traitor" (Mt. 10:4; Mk. 3:19; Lk. 6:16).

Jesus chose 12 earthly disciples for 3 stated reasons:

Mark 3:14-15
And he ordained twelve, that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach, [15] And to have power to heal sicknesses, and to cast out devils:

Judas was chosen among the 12 to perform an earthly task for Jesus, but was never chosen unto salvation.

Judas was the treasurer for the 12, a position he no doubt took for himself due to his extreme attraction to money.

There are many in every church who, perhaps for a time, do work for Christ, yet are not really born again. Judas serves as a warning for all of us to examine the reality of our faith and relationship to Christ.

Jesus is saying: "I have a relational knowledge (*oida*)" toward the ones I have selected.

At the Great White Throne Judgment, Jesus will pronounce the most dreaded words ever heard:

Matthew 7:23
And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

Judas' treachery was no surprise to Jesus. Nothing catches God by surprise!

III. ***Judas betrayed Jesus because…***
The Scriptures predicting the betrayal had to be fulfilled (v.18b)

One major purpose for the betrayal was to fulfill an Old Testament prediction.

The Scripture referred to here is Psalm 41:9, where David spoke of a betrayal by a false friend, a betrayal which pictured Judas' betrayal of Christ.

Psalm 41:9
Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up his heel against me.

Note: John's quote omits the phrase "in whom I trusted," because Jesus in His omniscient mind knew all along whom He could trust and whom He couldn't. David, however, being a mere man did not.

"When David wrote the psalm, he was probably referring to his counselor Ahithophel, who turned traitor and joined Absalom's rebellion (see 2 Sam. 15-17). It is significant that both Judas and Ahithophel committed suicide by hanging themselves (2 Sam. 17:23; Mt. 27:3-10; Acts 1:18)." (Wiersbe, p. 347).

IV. *Judas betrayed Jesus because…*
The Lord Jesus would be validated & believed on as a result (v.19-26)

Jesus' prediction of His betrayal would be another proof of His Messiahship after the prediction came to pass. Miracles and prophecies all have one main purpose, and that is to vindicate or authenticate Christ.

v. 19
"Believe that <u>I am</u>" – Jesus is the great "I AM" (Jehovah of the Old Testament).

v. 20
Verse 20 relates to verse 19 in this way: To "<u>believe</u>" on Christ (v. 19) is the same as <u>receiving</u> Christ (v. 20), and receiving Him is to also receive the Father.

v. 21
"Troubled" = disturbed, upset.

Even though He knew what would happen all along, He became upset at what Judas was about to do.

v. 22
In shock, the disciples wondered, "Who could it be?" They would also ask the question, "Lord, is it I?"

They never suspected Judas, however, as verses 28-29 imply.

Such deception tells us of the hideous power of sin. Some of the ones we least expect could be a Judas Iscariot.

v. 23
"Whom Jesus loved" – John's humble way of referring to himself. John is pictured as leaning on Jesus' shoulder.

v. 26
"At Eastern meals it was customary for the host to offer one of the guests a morsel of bread as a gesture of special friendship." (Ryrie note).

Just as Jesus gave the dipped bread to Judas, the Lord gives good things to even His enemies (He gives "rain tot he just and the unjust"). And yet despite the gifts and acts of love God shows even to the heathen, they always give God grief in return.

v. 26
Judas now knew that Jesus knew his plot.

Up to this point, Judas had not fully realized that Jesus was aware of his plan.

To see if Jesus knew, he also had asked, "Is it I?" (Mk. 14:19; Mt. 26:22).

V. ***Judas betrayed Jesus because…***
Satan entered Judas and moved him into action against Christ (v.27a)

"Satan entered into him" – Judas became demon-possessed.

The devil had already put the thought of betrayal into Judas' heart (see v. 2), now the devil enters his body to empower him for this evil deed.

Satan can't enter the life of one who has God's Spirit, but he can possess those who are unsaved any time he wants (if allowed by God).

When Jesus told Judas to "do it quickly," the disciples thought that Judas was on a financial mission for Jesus. Perhaps he was on his way to buy food or give a charitable contribution; but they never suspected that Judas was the betrayer.

VI. ***Judas betrayed Jesus because…***
The betrayal was part of God's decreed plan to utilize Judas at a specific time to prepare for Christ's crucifixion (v.27b-30)

v. 27
"That thou doest, do quickly" –

Why did Jesus tell Judas to do it quickly? Because the Passover was approaching and Jesus would now be glorified as the Passover Lamb (13:1).

Since the "hour had come" for Christ to be crucified, the Lord exhorts Judas to not delay but to get his evil act over quickly.

It was no mistake or failure on the part of Jesus that He would be betrayed. It was all part of God'' eternal plan of redemption.

"This treachery of Judas was according to the eternal counsels of God, but nonetheless Judas is responsible for his guilt" (Robertson, p. 242).

Luke 22:22
And truly the Son of man goeth, as it was determined: but woe unto that man by whom he is betrayed!

Matthew 26:24
The Son of man goeth as it is written of him: but woe unto that man by whom the Son of man is betrayed! it had been good for that man if he had not been born.

v. 30
“It was night” – The work of darkness began in the blackness of night.

The powers of darkness would now be at work in Judas as he betrayed Christ, and yet God’s plan would be fulfilled via Judas’ betrayal.

Conclusion:

ACTS 1:12-26
This passage unfolds the tragic end of one who was a disciple of Jesus Christ.
It shows the seriousness of sin.
The Bible says: "Let him who thinks he stands, take heed lest he fall"
Read Acts 1:25

1. BEWARE OF THE DECEITFULNESS OF SIN (V. 17-18A)
(Sin is a deceiver)

A. SIN CAN TOUCH THE MOST PRIVILEGED PEOPLE (V. 17)

No one can play (toy) with sin and get away with it.
EX: David
EX: TV evangelists

Outside of God's power and grace, no one is exempt from falling into the depths of sin.
It doesn't matter how much you know about the Bible--if you don't fear sin.
It doesn't matter how much you serve--if you don't fear sin.

God wants obedience, not merely sacrifice.

B. SIN CAN GO UNNOTICED BY OTHERS (V. 17)

Judas was a secret unbeliever.

Judas must have been a master at deception. They didn't suspect Judas at the Last Supper

Jesus said, "Have not I chosen 12 and one of you is a devil?" (they never suspected Judas)

Judas didn't even want to make it obvious to onlookers that he was the betrayer of Jesus, so he deceitfully gave a clue to the arresters that he would kiss the one whom they were to seize, rather than point him out directly (Lk. 22:47-48)

You can fool men, but you can't fool God! In the end it will be found out!

However, everything stands "naked and open unto the eyes of Him with whom we have to do."

C.SIN CAN OFFER A VERY APPEALING REWARD (V. 18A)

Judas lived for money.

1) He was angry when costly ointment was spent on Jesus.
READ John 12:1-8.

Cp. Mt. 26:8 - "To what purpose is this waste!"

Nothing you do, give, sacrifice for Christ is a waste.

2) He was a thief (John 12:6)

30 pieces of silver. Sin will always offer some present, something appealing, something glamorous, some enjoyment.

The Devil is an artist - he paints sin in very attractive colors.

If it didn't, we would never want to sin.

The adulterous is appealing, but "her feet go down to death; her steps take hold on hell" (Prov. 5:5)

Beware of the appealing reward of sin. Its loss is always greater than its gain.

2. BEWARE OF THE DESTRUCTIVENESS OF SIN (V. 18B-26)
(Sin is a destroyer)

A.THE STING OF SIN (Sin's Catastrophe)

"The sting of death is sin" (I Cor.15:56)

You can't play with sin without getting stung
(Ill. playing with bees)

1.Sin will lead you to do what you never thought possible (v. 16; v. 18b)

Judas never really thought that his betrayal would actually lead to the death of Christ. He probably thought that Christ's arrest would spark the Messiah into destroying His enemies and then setting up the kingdom. And then Judas would be really rich!

Note: Matthew 27:3-8.

"The field which Judas obtained with the blood money was actually purchased by the priests (Mt. 27:6-8). They probably purchased it in Judas' name since it was legally his money." (Kent, p. 27).

Judas never thought that the money he received for betraying Jesus would be the money that purchased his grave yard.

"Be not deceived, God is not mocked, for whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap" (Gal. 6:7)

--Haman never thought he would hang by his own gallows.
--The jealous enemies of Daniel never thought they would be thrown into the pit they prepared for Daniel.

The thief never thinks of getting caught. The drug-user never realizes that he is destroying himself. Homosexuals never imagined that AIDS would be the consequence for their sin.

What sin offers may seem great, wonderful, exciting, pleasurable, but in the end sin never gives what it promised.

The Bible says, "And be sure, your sin will find you out."

"Sin when it is finished bringeth forth death" (Ja. 1)

You don't play with sin.

Sin eventually brings destruction.

ILLUS: A circus performer could do an amazing feat in front of an audience. He would put his head in the mouth of a lion, and the crowd would applaud. Until one day the lion chomped, and it took six bullets to kill that lion--with the dead man's head still gripped between its teeth.

2. Sin will rob you of what could have been (v. 17, 20, 25)

Sin robbed Judas of the most rewarding life imaginable. He gave up (traded in) a life that could be profitable, challenging, beneficial, etc.

"Of all the words of tongue or pen, the saddest these: It might have been."

B. THE SHAME OF SIN (Sin's Disgracefulness) (V. 19-24)

1.The perpetual remembrance of Judas (v. 19)

I would rather move away into a cave somewhere than to live with shame!

How many of you named your son "Judas"?

In Webster's dictionary: Judas = betrayer; one who betrays another under the guise of friendship.

2. The appointed replacement for Judas (v. 20-24)

Sin not only disgraces (v. 19); sin disqualifies (v. 20-24).