

Morning Sermon November 4, 2018
Jesus vs Judas, the Servant vs the Serpent
John 13:2 & :18-30

I. The devilish, satanic nature of Judas' betrayal –

And supper being ended, the devil having already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray Him, (John 13:2 NKJ)

Satan's desire, his goal, his plan here was to destroy Jesus - "The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. ... (John 10:10 NKJ)

II. God's purpose in and control over this betrayal –

"I do not speak concerning all of you. I know whom I have chosen; but that the Scripture may be fulfilled, 'He who eats bread with Me has lifted up his heel against Me.' (John 13:18 NKJ)

1. See Jesus' knowledge - I know whom I have chosen; but...

2. The biblical record of the event, which Jesus said this betrayal fulfilled –

Even my own familiar friend in whom I trusted, who ate my bread, has lifted up *his* heel against me. (Psalm 41:9 NKJ)

3. Beyond the literal grammatical / historical method of interpretation, ... Jesus applies Psalm 41:9 to Himself and Judas -

The aim of the historical-grammatical method is to discover the meaning of the passage as the original author would have intended and what the original hearers would have understood. The original passage is seen as having only a single meaning or sense. This is similar to what Dr. John MacArthur said at the Answers for Pastor Conference. My seminary professors at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School taught the same. Unless there is more to this method, I believe they are wrong.

According to the historical-grammatical method, the original author would be David, his betrayer was Ahithophel, his counselor and friend. According to these, Jesus, after the fact, applies what happened to David to Himself – What is wrong with this?

David was NOT the original Author, God was and is, and NOT ONLY of SCRIPTURE, but also God is and was the AUTHOR of the EVENTS that Scripture records. Before Ahithophel betrayed David, God the Father – Jesus – the Holy Spirit knew Judas would betray Jesus! Jesus is "the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world." (Revelation 13:8 NKJ)

4. This is the same reason Jesus speaks of this event here, to show that even the wicked betrayal of one of His own, then His death, was all part of the plan –

"Now I tell you before it comes, that when it does come to pass, you may believe that I am He. (John 13:19 NKJ)

And they do eventually believe - "For truly against Your holy Servant Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles and the people of Israel, were gathered together²⁸ "to do whatever Your hand and Your purpose determined before to be done. (Acts 4:27-28 NKJ)

III. Jesus' love shown toward Judas – a love of calling but not choosing -

"So the last will be first, and the first last. For many are called, but few chosen." (Matthew 20:16 NKJ)

*1. Judas was privileged to eat bread with Jesus, to be at His table, in the exalted position of Apostle – **John 13:18***

2. He tells Judas, one of his apostles (sent ones) while still with Him, the truth about receiving Him –

"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who receives whomever I send receives Me; and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me." (John 13:20 NKJ)

*A. Judas had been one of Jesus' Gospel preachers - **Then He appointed twelve, that they might be with Him and that He might send them out to preach, (Mark 3:14 NKJ)***

B. Judas would soon deny the truth he once preached and forfeit the salvation others may have attained through his Judas' preaching – Jesus reminds them (him) of this.

"Those that had received Judas when he was a preacher, and perhaps were converted and edified by his preaching, were never the worse, nor should reflect upon it with any regret, though he afterwards proved a traitor; for he was one whom Christ sent." Matthew Henry

3. *His (Jesus') love is shown in His troubled Spirit when announcing the betrayal –*

When Jesus had said these things, He was troubled in spirit, and testified and said, "Most assuredly, I say to you, one of you will betray Me." (John 13:21 NKJ)

4. *Jesus uses a sign of love to mark Judas to John as the betrayer ...*²⁶ **Jesus answered, "It is he to whom I shall give a piece of bread when I have dipped it." And having dipped the bread, He gave it to Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon. (John 13:21-26 NKJ)**

A. *A fulfillment of prophecy – Psalm 41:9*

B. *A symbol of intimacy, close friendship –*

"In the culture of that time, to take a morsel from the table, dip it in the common dish, and offer it to someone else was a gesture of special friendship. Back in the Old Testament we read of Boaz inviting Ruth to come fellowship with him: " 'Come over here. Have some bread and dip it in the wine vinegar.' ... he offered her some roasted grain" (Ruth 2:14)." R. Kent Hughes

C. *A symbol which seems to light the fires of Hell in Judas' heart –*
Now after the piece of bread, Satan entered him. Then Jesus said to him, "What you do, do quickly." (John 13:27 NKJ)

Was Judas' own sign "a kiss" a kind of Satanic revenge?

Now His betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "Whomever I kiss, He is the One; seize Him." ⁴⁹ Immediately he went up to Jesus and said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" and kissed Him. (Matthew 26:48-49 NKJ)

*"Why did he use a kiss to show them, that's not what a kiss is for."
Michael Card*

Jesus' giving the sop to Judas marks him as the betrayer, yet it was also one last show of love, one which was rejected.

IV. *Judas' secret sad race into the night, ultimately outer darkness –*

1. *This was quiet, secret, Jesus knew, John knew, Peter maybe he knew? -*

But no one at the table knew for what reason He said this to him. ²⁹ For some thought, because Judas had the money box, that Jesus had said to him, "Buy those things we need for the feast," or that he should give something to the poor. (John 13:28-29 NKJ)

2. *Into the night –*

Having received the piece of bread, he then went out immediately. And it was night. (John 13:30 NKJ)

A. *Judas did betray Jesus – Matthew 26:48-49*

B. *Judas hung himself –*

Then Judas, His betrayer, seeing that He had been condemned, was remorseful and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders,⁴ saying, "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood." And they said, "What is that to us? You see to it!" ⁵ Then he threw down the pieces of silver in the temple and departed, and went and hanged himself. (Matthew 27:3-5 NKJ)

C. *Night was soon for Judas "outer darkness" –*

"But the sons of the kingdom will be cast out into outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." (Matthew 8:12 NKJ)

Judas was one of these "sons of the kingdom" – meaning Jewish. One who seemed in, but was really out, he was the Golden Boy of the Apostles –

"Judas was as perfect an actor, as accomplished a hypocrite as one can find. Theologians surmise that he was a man of more education and higher social standing than the rest of the apostles. He was not from Galilee but from Kerioth, a much better address. Dr. Ironside said, "Judas was the real gentleman of all the teachers." He had class compared to the rest. Today Judas would wear a Brooks Brothers suit and a Madison Avenue smile. He would know all the right hymns—when to sit down, when to stand up, when to inject the most persuasive cliché, how to ingratiate himself with the power leaders of the church. No one would suspect him of being a traitor, and they did not then either." R. Kent Hughes

3. *Judas went from the top to the bottom, fast! Others Jesus takes from the bottom to the top - ⁹ Now when He rose early on the first day of the week, He appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom He had cast seven demons. (Mark 16:9 NKJ)*

See also 1 Corinthians 1:26-31

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