

Lesson 8 - Judas Iscariot

DIGGING INTO SCRIPTURE

A. WHO WAS JUDAS ISCARIOT, WAS HE THE LAST NAME TO APPEAR EVERY TIME THE DISCIPLES WERE LISTED? WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT HIM? MATCH THE VERSES WITH REFERENCES.

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| (a) John 6:71 | () The treasurer of the disciples. |
| (b) Matthew 26:14-15 | () Judas' Father. |
| (c) John 12:6; 13:29 | () Bargaining to betray Jesus. |
| (d) Matthew 27:5 | () Protest against the breaking of the container of ointment. |
| (e) Mark 14:43-45 | () Hangs himself. |
| (f) John 12:4-5 | () Betrays the Lord Jesus. |

“The history of Judas presents the sad ending of a life that might have been honoured of God. ... The Saviour did not repulse Judas. He gave him a place among the twelve. He trusted him to do the work of an evangelist. He endowed him with power to heal the sick and to cast out devils. But Judas did not come to the point of surrendering himself fully to Christ. He did not give up his worldly ambition or his love of money. While he accepted the position of a minister of Christ, he did not bring himself under the divine moulding. He felt that he could retain his own judgment and opinions, and he cultivated a disposition to criticize and accuse.”

Ellen White, The Desires of Ages, 716, 717

B. IN HIS SACERDOTAL PRAYER, JESUS TALKING ABOUT HIS DISCIPLES SAID, “...NONE OF THEM IS LOST EXCEPT THE SON OF PERDITION, THAT THE SCRIPTURE MIGHT BE FULFILLED.” JOHN 17:12. WHICH PROPHECIES WAS JESUS REFERRING TO? PSALM 41:9; 109:9 AND ZECHARIAH 11:12, 13 (REF. MATTHEW 26:21-25; MARK 14:18-21; LUKE 22:21-23; JOHN 13:18-26; 17:12; ACTS 1:16, 20).

“Even my _____ familiar _____ in whom I _____, who ate my _____, has lifted up his heel _____ me.” Psalm 41:9 NKJV “Let his _____ be _____, and let _____ take his _____.”
Psalm 109:8 NKJV

“Then I said to them, “If it is _____ to you, give me my _____; and if not, refrain.” So they weighed out for my wages _____ pieces of _____. And the LORD said to me, “Th row it to the _____” — that princely price they set on _____. So I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw them into the _____ of the LORD for the potter.” *Zechariah 11:12-13 NKJV*

“Wonderful had been the long-suffering of Jesus in His dealing with this tempted soul. Nothing that could be done to save Judas had been left undone. After he had twice covenanted to betray his Lord, Jesus still gave him opportunity for repentance. By reading the secret purpose of the traitor’s heart, Christ gave to Judas the final, convincing evidence of His divinity. Th is was to the false disciple the last call to repentance. No appeal that the divine-human heart of Christ could make had been spared. Th e waves of mercy, beaten back by stubborn pride, returned in a stronger tide of subduing love. But although surprised and alarmed at the discovery of his guilt, Judas became only the more determined. From the sacramental supper he went out to complete the work of betrayal.

Ellen White, The Desires of Ages, 654, 655

C. WHAT EVENT DEMONSTRATED THE CONFIDENCE THE OTHER DISCIPLES HAD IN JUDAS SUCH SO THAT NO ONE SUSPECTED THAT JUDAS WAS THE TRAITOR? JOHN 13:27-29

“...Then Jesus said to him [Judas], “What you do, do _____.” But no _____ at the table _____ for what reason He said this to him. For some thought, because _____ had the money box, that Jesus had said to him, “_____ those things we need for the feast,” or that he should give something to the _____.” *John 13:27-29 NKJV*

When Jesus called His disciples, “The disciples were anxious that Judas should become one of their number. He was of commanding appearance, a man of keen discernment and executive ability, and they commended him to Jesus as one who would greatly assist Him in His work. They were surprised that Jesus received him so coolly. ... Judas was highly regarded by the disciples, and had great influence over them.”

Ellen White, The Desires of Ages, 294, 717

D. WHAT EVENTS DEMONSTRATED JUDAS’ ARROGANCE AND HYPOCRISY?

1. John 12:4-5 _____

2. John 12:6 _____

3. Luke 22:3-6 _____

4. Luke 22:47-48 _____

“Judas had naturally a strong love for money; but he had not always been corrupt enough to do such a deed as this. He had fostered the evil spirit of avarice until it had become the ruling motive of his life. The love of mammon overbalanced his love for Christ. Through becoming the slave of one vice he gave himself to Satan, to be driven to any lengths in sin.”

Ellen White, The Desires of Ages, 716

MAKING IT PERSONAL

A. WHAT OPPORTUNITIES DID THE OTHER DISCIPLES HAVE THAT JUDAS DID NOT? WHAT CAUSED JUDAS TO GO DOWN SUCH A DIFFERENT PATH FROM ALL THE OTHER DISCIPLES? WHAT VALUABLE LIFE LESSONS DO THE ANSWERS TO THESE QUESTIONS OFFER? READ THE QUOTATION BELOW.

“Judas had the same opportunities as had the other disciples. He listened to the same precious lessons. But the practice of the truth, which Christ required, was at variance with the desires and purposes of Judas, and he would not yield his ideas in order to receive wisdom from Heaven.”

Ellen White, The Desires of Ages, 294, 295

B. ELLEN WHITE WROTE THAT JUDAS ISCARIOT “WAS TO BE A WARNING TO ALL WHO, LIKE HIM, SHOULD BETRAY SACRED TRUSTS.” (THE DESIRES OF AGES, 716). WHAT “SACRED TRUSTS” MIGHT WE BETRAY TODAY? GOD’S LAW, THE SABBATH, TITHES AND OFFERINGS, LOVING OUR NEIGHBOUR, THE PROCLAMATION OF THE GOSPEL MESSAGE?

“A faithful steward will do all he possibly can in the service of God; the one object before him will be the great need of the world. He will realize that the message of truth is to be given, not only in his own neighbourhood, but in the regions beyond. When men cherish this spirit, the love of the truth and the sanctification they will receive through the truth, will banish avarice, overreaching, and every species of dishonesty.”

Ellen White, Counsels on Stewardship, 83

C. HOW MUST WE PRAY TO NOT RUN THE SAME RISKS AS JUDAS ISCARIOT? PSALM 51:10

“ _____ in me a _____ heart, O God, and _____ a steadfast _____ within me.” *Psalms 51:10 NKJV*

Assess Your Own Prejudice – Set aside time this week to write down some of the prejudices you have identified in your life. Once you’ve done that, set a goal to address those prejudices. Commit these issues to God, and commit to praying that God will address these issues and any related ones in your life.

Helping Your Neighbour – Individually or as a group plan a community service activity that will allow you to share Christ with those you are serving. Maybe you can work with an existing church project or identify a needy family or person. These activities can provide us with a very powerful perspective on life.

My Commitment

I commit to _____



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