

Scripture Readings: Exodus 20:1-17 and Luke 22:1-23

Singing: 398:1-3 – 323:1, 4 – 387:1-6 – 113:8-12 – 383:1-5

Jesus' Betrayal by Judas

I. A grief to Jesus II. A choice by Judas III. A warning for us

I. JUDAS ISCARIOT'S ACT OF TREASON WAS A DEEP GRIEF TO JESUS

A. Jesus always knew the truth about Judas Iscariot (Ps. 41:9)

1. His announcement (21) shows that He is up-to-date with Judas' plan

2. Yet disciples' reaction tells much about Jesus' actions (John 13:22)

B. Naturally, Jesus was immensely grieved about Judas and his actions

1. No grief is greater than abuse of trust and hypocrisy of love (John 13:21)

2. Yet Jesus wasn't filled with revengeful resentment against Judas

C. Jesus still 'suffers' most of those who are nearest to Him (Luke 19:41-44)

1. Jesus is closest to 'the sheep of His pastures' (Ps. 95:7; Deut. 4:7)

II. JUDAS BETRAYAL WAS THE FRUIT OF A PATHWAY CHOSEN BY JUDAS

A. This final and foul act of betrayal is climax of many wrong choices

1. These choices went on without *any other disciple* noticing it

a. Judas has been nursing a growing grudge against Jesus

b. events in house of Simon sealed his final choice (Matt. 26:14; John 12:4-6)

B. After Judas again ignored Jesus appeal, he is given over: Luke 22:3

1. Satan has been battling all along with Judas' mind

2. Finally Satan gets permission to 'enter fully into Judas'

a. this is the worst judgment (Rom. 1:24, 26, 28)

b. solemn truth is that *at the bottom of Judas' final act is one of the most common sins of all: **hypocritical insincerity!***

III. THE SINKING OF JUDAS ISCARIOT IS A SERIOUS WARNING FOR US ALL

- A. The fact that Judas did 'what was written' didn't excuse him at all
1. Both Jesus and Judas went as it was 'written' (Acts 2:21; Ps. 41:9)
 2. Yet Jesus expressed His woe over Judas (Matt 26:24b)
- B. But why punish one for his ill-deed if they 'written and determined'?
1. Because his deeds were a violation of all the love shown to him
 2. Because God's hidden purpose didn't force Judas

Final Personal Applications

- A. Jesus words teach us that God's hidden decree is **no refuge for sinners**
1. Any (indirect) appeal to God's sovereign (hidden) will is a vain attempt to excuse any sin
 2. The refuge for sinners is God's revealed will of grace (Luke 9:56)
- B. Judas Iscariot proved that spiritual *nearness and privileges isn't enough*

THOUGHTS ON HYPOCRISY

Self-ends are the operative ingredients in all a hypocrite does. (T. Brooks)

A running sore (terrible sickness) may lie under a purple robe. (S. Charnock)

A man may have the tongue of an angel and the heart of a devil. (J Flavel)

Piety from the teeth outward is an easy thing. (M. Henry)