

The Enigma of Judas Iscariot

Fred R. Coulter

One of the most unknown characters or persons recorded in the Bible is Judas Iscariot. There are many questions concerning Judas Iscariot. Why did there have to be a

- Judas Iscariot in the first place?
- Did Judas Iscariot commit the unpardonable sin?
- Is he lost?
- Does he have an opportunity for salvation ahead of him?
- What about this man?

This man Judas Iscariot is one of the most enigmatic of all in the entire Bible. He's spoken of in the New Testament in not too clear of terms.

How are we going to find out about Judas Iscariot? Today we're going to see that some of the things that Judas Iscariot probably thought, and we'll see how we can come to that point of understanding some of his thoughts. We're also going to see some of the prophecies directly relating to Judas Iscariot and his betrayal of Jesus Christ. Then we will see the tremendous spiritual battle that actually took place because of that.

Like anything else you study in the Bible, always build it upon the fundamentals that you know. So, with this one let's begin at the beginning. I'm sure that almost everyone of us know these Scriptures by heart, but it's very important that we begin right here for a quick review so that we can understand what is really taking place when we come to the account of Judas Iscariot and Jesus Christ. There's more taking place than just meets the eye.

John 1 gives us one of the most important fundamental things that we need to know concerning Jesus Christ. John 1:1: "In *the* beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." This tells us exactly who Jesus Christ was. He was the Lord God of the Old Testament. He was the One Who created everything that there is.

Verse 2: "He was in *the* beginning with God. All things came into being through Him, and not even one *thing* that was created came into being without Him" (vs 2-3). Then we know that He was made flesh.

Let's also just briefly review some basic things that we know concerning the Word of God, the history in the Bible, and in particularly the revealed history concerning God and Satan.

We know that in Rev. 12 it tells us that there

was war in heaven and one-third of the angels followed that old dragon called Satan the devil. They were cast back down to the earth.

We also know that in Isa. 14 it talks about Lucifer, where he said, 'I will ascend above the stars of God; I will sit in the throne of God; I will be like the Most High God.'

Why do I bring all of this up in reference to Judas Iscariot? *Because we will see some of the battle that took place between Jesus Christ and Satan the devil came in the form of Judas Iscariot!* We will see how that developed.

Ezekiel 28 is the place where it talks about the character of Satan the devil. It's very important that we understand about his character, because when we understand about the character of Satan the devil, then we can also understand about some of the character of Judas Iscariot.

Ezekiel 28:14: "You *were* the anointed cherub that covers..." this reveals that the one who became Satan the devil—Lucifer, the covering cherub—was hovering right over the throne of God! We will see later that Judas Iscariot was right next to Jesus Christ! We'll also see something revealing about Judas Iscariot later.

"...and I set you so; you were upon the Holy mountain of God; you have walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. You *were* perfect in your ways from the day that you were created, until iniquity was found in you" (vs 14-15). Then it begins listing some of the character traits of Satan the devil:

Verse 16: "By the multitude of your merchandise they have filled your midst *with violence*..." I'm going to relate that to what Judas did ahead of time so that we understand what it was that Judas did! *He betrayed Jesus for 30 pieces of silver!* Did that result in merchandizing and violence? *Yes, it did!*

"...and you have *sinned*..." (v 16). We're going to get a clearer answer. I don't think we can answer it definitely, but did Judas Iscariot commit the unpardonable sin?

"...Therefore, I will cast you as profane from the mountain of God, and I will destroy you, O covering cherub, from among the stones of fire. **Your heart was lifted up** because of your beauty..." (vs 16-17). We can't necessarily draw an analogy there with Judas Iscariot, but his heart was certainly *lifted up!* In other words, the vanity applies.

It's the same thing.

"...you have **corrupted your wisdom** by reason of your brightness..." (v 17)—or by the reason of your importance. Did Judas Iscariot think that he was somewhat important? We'll answer that a little bit later when we read the accounts of Judas Iscariot.

"...I will cast you to the ground; I will lay you before kings..." (v 17). We're going to see that's exactly what happened to Judas Iscariot. Was he cast to the ground? He wasn't laid before kings, but everyone *knew!*

Verse 18: "By the multitude of your iniquities, by the unrighteousness of your trade, you have profaned your sanctuaries; therefore, I brought forth a fire from your midst; it shall devour you, and I will bring you to ashes upon the earth, before the eyes of all who see you." There's the character of Satan the devil. We find that:

- he had jealousy
- he had vanity
- he had greed
- he had deceit in his heart
- he took advantage of the position that he had as covering cherub, right next to the One Who became Jesus Christ

Now let's go to the ministry of Jesus Christ. We've covered His birth, His growth as a child before, but remember: all the way through who was after Jesus to destroy Him? *Satan was after Jesus from the instant that He was born!*

Let's see the encounter that Jesus Christ had with Satan the devil directly, just before Jesus began His ministry. Luke 4:1: "And Jesus, filled with *the Holy Spirit*, returned from the Jordan, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness *for* forty days to be tempted by the devil..." (vs 1-2). Every kind of temptation that ever occurred to mankind occurred to Jesus Christ.

Do you think that at this time that Satan would have held back any of the temptations he was capable of doing? Do you think that he held back to not bring upon Jesus every conceivable temptation? *Of course not!* But it lists some of the more important ones that Jesus was tempted with.

"...And He ate nothing in those days; and after they had come to an end, He hungered. Then the devil said to Him, 'If You are *the Son of God*, command that this stone become bread'" (vs 2-3).

Jesus gave the answer of what all human beings should do. He wasn't talking about that other human beings, outside of Jesus, should live by every Word of God, but He was actually quoting the

Scripture in reference to Himself, as well as in reference to all human beings.

Verse 4: "But Jesus answered him, saying, 'It is written, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by **every word of God**."'"" If we base our lives upon living by *every Word of God*, you think about that in your own life as we go through our days, from week to week, and it's nice to be here on the Sabbath where it's all restful, nice and pleasant:

- to be with brethren that love you
- to be away from the cares of the world
- to be away from the hustle and bustle of things to be done

Your life, my life—every one of our lives—should be based around *living by every Word of God* as led—as Jesus was—by the Holy Spirit.

Verse 5: "Then the devil led Him up into a high mountain *and* showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time." And he offered to give Jesus control of the whole world!

- Did Jesus know that He was going to be King over the earth?
- Did Jesus know that He was going to inherit all kingdoms?
- *Yes!*

So, here's the temptation: Take it now! Do it now! Of course, that the way Satan always works.

Verse 6: "And the devil said to Him, 'I will give You all this authority, and the glory of them *all*; **for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whomever I desire**. Therefore, if You will worship me in *my* presence, **all things** shall be Yours'" (vs 6-7). If a temptation were brought upon you in the same way, and *all this will be yours*—notice there is a catch—*if you will worship me ALL shall be Yours!*

This is why Jesus Christ has said that we are to love God with all our heart, mind, soul and being, because Satan the devil is powerful! He rules this world! We need to understand that. Take heart, *Jesus said that He overcame!*

Verse 8: "But Jesus answered *and* said to him, 'Get behind Me, Satan; for it is written, "You shall worship *the* Lord your God, and Him only shall you serve."'"" He's not talking about Satan worshiping the Lord God, simply because Satan *won't* worship the Lord God. He's already rebelled and proven that he won't. But Jesus is quoting the Scripture that He is applying to Himself: 'I, Jesus, as a man the Bible says "...shall worship *the* Lord your God..." and serve Him only.

Verse 9: "Then he led Him to Jerusalem and set Him upon the edge of the temple, and said to

Him, ‘If You are the Son of God, cast Yourself down from here; for it is written...’” (vs 9-10). Here Satan quotes the Scripture correctly.

Just because a person can quote the Scripture correctly does not necessarily mean that they are from God!

“...‘He shall give His angels charge concerning You to keep You; and in *their* hands they shall bear You up, lest You strike Your foot against a stone.’ But Jesus answered *and* said to him, ‘It is *clearly* stated, “You shall not tempt *the* Lord your God”’” (vs 10-11).

People can use the Scriptures in a wrong way and tempt God, and can misapply them in their own lives. This is the battle that began right at the beginning of the ministry of Jesus Christ. This is not a beginning battle; this is another battle through all the battles that were fought between God and Satan. Now Jesus Christ is God in the flesh and the battle continues: God in the flesh against Satan the devil as a spirit being.

After this time we find the next event that took place. In Mark 1 we find a shortened account of the temptation of Jesus:

Mark 1:12: “And soon after, the Spirit compelled Him to go out into the wilderness; and He was there in the wilderness *for* forty days, tempted by Satan, and was with the wild animals; and *afterwards* angels ministered to Him” (vs 12-13). That’s a short summary, it doesn’t tell you too much. When you really think about it, it makes you wonder what really happened.

Verse 14: “Now, after the imprisonment of John, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the Gospel of the Kingdom of God, and saying, ‘The time has been fulfilled, and the Kingdom of God is near at hand; **repent, and believe in the Gospel.**’” (vs 14-15). That’s a key thing we need to understand! Not only repentance but there has to be belief! Jesus even said of Judas Iscariot that He knew he did not believe!

Verse 16: “And *as* He was walking by the Sea of Galilee, He saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a large net into the sea, for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, ‘Follow Me, and I will make you to become fishers of men’” (vs 16-17). Here we have the calling of the disciples. Jesus called all of the disciples. We have two accounts of disciples:

- the account of the 12 disciples who became apostles
- the account of the 70 disciples that Jesus sent out two by two.

When we come to the Day of Pentecost, we have the apostles, Mary the mother of Jesus, and 120 of the brethren all together. It expanded during the ministry of Jesus Christ. Jesus was performing miracles, healing, casting out demons, etc.

Mark 3:1: “And again He went into the synagogue, and a man who had a withered hand was there. And they were watching Him *to see* if He would heal him on the Sabbaths, in order that they might **accuse Him**” (vs 1-2). Keep *accuse Him* in mind so we can begin to pick up some of the things that Judas Iscariot probably began doing in his own mind.

Verse 3: “Then He said to the man who had the withered hand, ‘Stand up *here* in the center.’ And He said to them, ‘Is it lawful to do good on the Sabbaths, or to do evil? To save life, or to kill?’ But they were silent. And after looking around at them **with anger...**” (vs 3-5). There will be some people today if something is done, though it is done right, if they would see Jesus they would say, ‘He can’t be the one because He was angry. If He’s the Son of God He should never be angry.’

It’s kind of like concerning Christians, people will say ‘he should never be angry, because if he’s a Christian he should never be angry.’ Where does that attitude come from? The Bible doesn’t show that any of us are perfect—does it?

“...being grieved at the hardness of their hearts, He said to the man, ‘Stretch out your hand.’ And he stretched *it* out, and his hand was restored *as* sound as the other. Then **the Pharisees left and immediately took counsel with the Herodians against Him as to how they might destroy Him**” (vs 5-6).

I want you to focus in on that attitude the Pharisees had. *Immediately* they went out and began plotting how to get rid of Jesus. His ministry was just beginning, and they were already planning to do Him in. I just wonder who was inspiring that? You think about it!

Verse 7: “But Jesus withdrew to the sea with His disciples; and a great multitude from Galilee followed Him, and from Judea, and from Jerusalem, and from Idumea and beyond the Jordan; and those around Tyre and Sidon, a great multitude, when they heard what great things He was doing, came to Him. Then He told His disciples to have a small ship wait for Him on account of the multitude, in order that they might not press upon Him” (vs 7-9)—just overwhelm Him, too much pushing in trying to get at Him.

Verse 10: “For He had healed so many that they *begun* to crowd around Him, as many as had

plagues, in order that they might touch Him; and when the unclean spirits saw Him, they fell down before Him and cried aloud, saying, **‘You are the Son of God’**” (vs 10-11). That’s important to remember.

There are several things to understand here. First of all, demon possessed people would come into the synagogue. We see in another place where they cried out, ‘You are the Holy One of Israel.’ And Jesus told them, ‘Hold your peace.’

Here they were saying, “...‘**You are the Son of God.**’” With Jesus *choosing* Judas Iscariot—we’ll see what He said of him—He said, **‘One of you is a demon.’** Would they still have belief or knowledge that He was the Son of God? *Yes! Absolutely!*

Verse 12: “But He sharply rebuked them so that they would not make Him known. Then He went up into the mountain and called to *Him* those whom He desired, and they came to Him” (vs 12-13). We’ll see that there’s another account in Luke 6 how that He chose the twelve.

Verse 14: “And He ordained twelve, that they might be with Him, and that He might send them to preach... [this included Judas Iscariot] ...and to have authority to heal diseases and to cast out demons” (vs 14-15)—this included Judas Iscariot.

Verse 16: “Then He *chose* Simon and added to *him* the name Peter; and *He chose* James, the son of Zebedee, and John, the brother of James; and He added to them *the* name Boanerges, which means ‘sons of thunder.’ And *He chose* Andrew, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas. And *He chose* James, the son of Alphaeus; and Thaddeus; and Simon, the Cananean; and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed Him. And they went into a house” (vs 16-19). And they also began healing. Judas is always listed *last*, but was Judas last? What may have Judas thought about himself?

Luke 6 is the parallel account of the same thing: of the healing, the calling and how He selected the 12 apostles. Remember where it says that He ordained them. That means that Jesus Christ laid hands on them. Judas Iscariot had hands laid on him just like the other apostles.

Luke 6:1: “Now, it came to pass on *the* second Sabbath of *the* first rank *that* He was walking through the grain fields; and His disciples were plucking the ears and were eating, after rubbing *them* in their hands. But some of the Pharisees said to them...” (vs 1-2). I want you to understand something very carefully as we go through. I want you to remember the attitude of the Pharisees. Please

keep that in mind.

“...‘Why are you doing that which is not lawful to do on the Sabbaths?’” (v 2). What is the oldest rouse in the world? When you’re doing something wrong, or when you are evil yourself, what do you do? *You point out things that make other people look bad to draw attention away from yourself!*

Somewhere along the line in your life you did that. Go back and look at all the childhood fights that you may have had in your family, and I guarantee that almost 50% or more of them center right around that thing. ‘Look at what *he* did!’ That is also a satanic attitude.

Verse 3: “And Jesus answered *and* said to them, ‘Have you not read even this, that which David did when he himself hungered, and those who were with him? How he went into the house of God and took the loaves of showbread, and he ate *of them*, and also gave *some* to those with him, which it is not lawful to eat except *for* the priests only?’” (vs 3-4). That was a hard one for them to answer—right?

- Was not David, in the Old Testament, singled out as the man that God loved?
- Isn’t David one of those who is going to be in the Kingdom of God?
- Isn’t the whole predication of the coming of the Messiah based upon the lineage of Judah?

or

- The lineage of David?

He used this example: Was it unlawful for Him to eat that bread, except the priest? *Sure was!* Yes, it was, but for the sake of saving life, then the ritual did not take precedence over mercy.

Verse 5: “And He said to them, ‘The Son of man is Lord even of the Sabbath.’” So, He could do what was lawful for God to do on the Sabbath.

Verse 6: “Now, it also came to pass on another Sabbath *that* He went into the synagogue and taught; and a man was there whose right hand was withered. And the scribes and the Pharisees were watching Him...” (vs 6-7). There are people like that; people watchers, spies watching instead of rejoicing for the good, instead of being thankful that God was healing, they were watching! We’re going to get this guy.

“...whether He would heal on the Sabbath, so that they might find an accusation against Him. But He knew their thoughts, and said to the man who had the withered hand, ‘Arise and stand in the midst.’ And he arose *and* stood *in their midst*. Then Jesus said to them, ‘I will ask you *one thing*: Is it

lawful to do good or to do evil on the Sabbaths? to save life or to destroy *it*?” (vs 7-9). He was going right to the heart of their attitude.

Verse 10: “And after looking around on them all, He said to the man, ‘Stretch out your hand.’ And he did so, and his hand was restored *as* sound as the other. But they were filled with rage...” (vs 10-11). Just anger! They gnashed their teeth!

“...and consulted with one another *as* to what they should do with Jesus. Now, it came to pass in those days *that* He went up into the mountain to pray, and He spent the *entire* night in prayer to God” (vs 11-12). Before He ordained the 12 disciples as apostles, **He prayed all night!** Then it lists all the apostles again.

Then the last one, v 16: “Judas, *brother* of James; and Judas Iscariot, who also became *the* betrayer.” The same character that Satan the devil had.

- Was Satan the devil a traitor to God and the Kingdom of God in his rebellion? *Yes, he was!*
- Did he, in anger, vanity, jealousy and greed, get one-third of the angels to follow him? *Yes, he did!*

Again, we have the same kind of attitude that we see here.

Let’s see one of the events that took place, and obviously, this was one thing that Judas Iscariot also did. Judas had many, many different things crossing his life; many different choices and things that he could have chosen to do, one thing or another, at one time or another.

Matthew 10:1: “And when He had called His twelve disciples... [which obviously included Judas Iscariot] ...He gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every kind of sickness. Now, the names of the twelve apostles are these...” (vs 1-2).

Again, it lists Judas Iscariot, v 4: “...Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed Him. These twelve Jesus sent out after commanding them, saying, “Do not go into *the* way of the Gentiles, and do not enter into a city of the Samaritans; but go instead to the lost sheep of *the* house of Israel. And *as you are* going, proclaim, saying, “The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand.” Heal *the* sick. Cleanse *the* lepers. Raise the dead. Cast out demons. Freely you have received; freely give” (vs 4-8). Judas went out and did those things—didn’t he?

Did he also, at the same time, have a demon himself? *Apparently, he did!* That may raise some other questions we can think about.

Let’s see what happened when the 70 were sent out. They were sent out and did exactly the same thing, he told them exactly the same thing:

Luke 10:9: “And heal the sick in it, and say to them, ‘The Kingdom of God has drawn near to you.’” And then almost exactly the same instruction that He gave (Matt. 10).

Verse 17: “Then the seventy returned with joy...” I wonder how the 12 apostles felt when they went out to heal the sick, raise the dead, cast out the demons and cleanse the lepers? I imagine that they came back just as joyful! Do you think Judas Iscariot was joyful? *He would have had to be as joyful as the other disciples!* They would have had to have talked about it.

Verse 17: “Then the seventy returned with joy saying, ‘Lord, even the demons are subject to us through Your name.’ And He said to them, ‘I was watching when Satan fell from heaven like lightning’” (vs 17-18). That was not the important thing.

Verse 19: “Behold, I give you authority to tread upon serpents and scorpions, and upon all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall injure you in any way. Yet, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you; but rejoice that your names are written in heaven” (vs 19-20).

We know there’s a Book of Life and **our names are written in heaven!** That’s a fantastic thing! Keep that always in mind if you get discourage or feeling down. In preparing for this sermon just reading that one part encouraged me a lot, because this is really not the most uplifting sermon. As a matter of fact, when I got done with it, I felt very, very down simply because of the overwhelmingness of what Judas had done. When we really get through it, you’re going to feel even part of that, so I want you to focus in on that and rejoice, because your names are written in heaven.

Let’s see what Jesus Himself says personally about Judas Iscariot. Let’s understand that all of the disciples—every one of the disciples—were basically equal, except Judas.

- Who was Judas?
- Did he have a job different than all of the other apostles?
- *Yes, he did!*

Judas was the one who was the treasurer, the one who ‘carried the bag.’

If out of all the 12 someone is given the authority to carry the money that the apostles and disciples would use, then he would be the one who would be next to Jesus. I imagine that when it all

started out Jesus—after He knew what He was going to do with Judas—knew who He was going to call; He knew He would ordain Judas; He knew that He would make Judas the ‘keeper of the money.’ When Jesus said, ‘Here, Judas, here’s the bag, you are the treasurer’—I wonder how he felt? He probably felt that ‘none of the other disciples have this, but *I* do.’

Let’s notice something else that Jesus said about Judas, John 6:64: “But there are some of you who do not believe. For **Jesus knew from the beginning who were the ones that did not believe, and who would betray Him.**” Wouldn’t that be something to understand that? We can go just a little bit forward on this, about those who did not believe. Even those who saw Jesus rising in the air to go back into heaven after the resurrection, *there were some who didn’t believe*, even though they were worshiping. **Jesus knew who didn’t believe, and who should betray Him!** The same thing with every one of us as Christians:

- Are we Christians, indeed, because we believe?

or

- Are we ‘fair weather’ Christians?
- To be offended at the least little thing that comes along?
- Was Judas offended? *Somewhere along the line Judas had to be offended!*

Verse 65: “And He said, ‘For this reason, I have said to you, no one can come to Me unless it has been given to him from My Father.’ From that *time*, many of His disciples went back and walked no more with Him” (vs 65-66). You would think based upon modern Christianity that people see on television:

- Jesus should not have sent them back
- Jesus should not have been so harsh
- After all, shouldn’t we get as many into heaven as we need to?

‘No,’ He said, ‘there are some who don’t believe, and you will not accept Me’; and He let them go!

Verse 67: “Therefore, Jesus said to the twelve, ‘Are you also desiring to go away?’ Then Simon Peter answered Him, ‘Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life’” (vs 67-68). That sounds like the right answer—right? *Yes, that is the right answer!* But how deeply did Peter really comprehend it and believe it? *He comprehended and believed it to a certain degree!*

Verse 69: “‘And we have believed and have known that You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.’ Jesus answered them, ‘**Did I not choose you twelve, and one of you is a devil?**’” (vs 69-70). So,

it is no great thing that if we understand God’s Word, we don’t walk up and say, ‘O God, how great I am.’ *No!* God is the One Who has made it possible. We need to be ever thankful to God for what He has done in His grace and His mercy and His love.

Verse 71: “Now, He spoke of Judas Iscariot, Simon’s *son*; for he was about to betray Him, being one of the twelve.” Even on the earth, as the Son of God, as the One Who was God before becoming a human being, and He had all the grief, agony and trouble that He must have had with Satan and all the rebellious angels that went with him. Now He has to face—face to face, day in and day out—Judas Iscariot. He’s right there hovering, and he was the one that Jesus went to whenever there was something to do with the 12 where it required any money.

One other thing about Judas Iscariot, not only was he treasurer, but he was the only disciple that came from the area of Judea, perhaps Jerusalem. All of the other disciples came from the area of Galilee. They were not of the same ‘spiritual quality’ of those in Jerusalem. That’s why Jesus was not born in Jerusalem; He was born in Bethlehem. That’s why Jesus was not born except through the line of David.

Again, a lot of these things that we read, Jesus applies also to Himself. We want to see how Judas Iscariot maybe began to be, in his own mind, disillusioned with Jesus. What happens if you think you’re important? Then the boss begins to avoid you?

- I carry the bag
- I’m the treasurer
- I obviously, am going to have a greater reward than these others.

Matthew 16:28: “Truly I say to you, there are some of those standing here who shall not taste of death until they have seen the Son of man coming in His kingdom.”

What happens whenever something like that is mentioned? When there’s vanity, jealousy, lust, greed and self-importance? *Because all of these things had to be part of Judas Iscariot in order for him to do what he did!* You think you’re going to be the one! You think you’re going to be the one who is going to have this privilege!

Have you ever had something like that happen to you; say you’re in a group of kids and they make an announcement that one of them is going to be chosen for this, or one is going to get this award. What happens when you don’t get the award?

I remember when I was in third grade; I wanted to be a school-crossing patrolman. I just wanted it in the worst way, because I could have this little thing around me with a badge on it and I could stand out there with a flag and make all the cars stop and let the kids go. I would be important. I thought for sure they were going to choose me. I wasn't chosen! I got upset! That's part of the way that human beings act, because they think that they're important.

Can you imagine what happened six days later? Matthew 17:1: "And after six days, Jesus took with *Him* Peter and James and his brother John..." He didn't take Judas! ***He did not take Judas!*** I think that this is one of the places where Judas really began turning. You can open your mind even more for an attitude of Satan the devil. This is one place where this perhaps began.

Let's see some more of the attitude of Judas Iscariot; we touched on this a little bit, but let's see where it actually happened. This is the account where Jesus was anointed six days before the Passover. We're also going to see the account that was two days before the Passover a little bit later. This was in Lazarus' home:

John 12:3: "Mary then took a pound of pure spikenard ointment worth a great price *and* anointed Jesus' feet, wiping His feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the aroma of the ointment. As a result, one of His disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's *son*, who was about to betray Him said" (vs 3-4).

Almost every place where it says of Judas Iscariot it says *the one who should betray Him*, or *the traitor*. He's always put at the bottom of the list, after the fact. But I think during the ministry, Judas thought he was right next to Jesus, because he had 'the bag.'

Judas said, v 5: "Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred silver coins, and given to *the poor*?" Don't you always hear this by the corrupt politicians? *Oh, we shouldn't do this; we should give it to the poor, to the homeless!* What does this tell us:

- he's self-righteous
- he has an ideological mask of righteousness to cover his own sin

(go to the next track)

At this point we need to ask:

- What did Judas think about Jesus?
- How can we answer that?

This is very important. Nowhere in the Bible does it tell us that Judas Iscariot thought this or that about

Jesus. What we can find out is:

- What were the thoughts and attitudes of the Pharisees?
- Did not Judas Iscariot betray Jesus to them?

If he betrayed Jesus to them, then he had to think like they did!

- Was he not a demon?
- Did he not have a demon? *Yes, he did!*
- Would he then think of Jesus as Satan thought of Jesus?
- *Chances are that's correct!*

Somewhere along the line Judas Iscariot had to begin believing with what the Pharisees were saying, otherwise, why betray Him. Even though a person is demon possessed, he has to be justified in his own mind. Let's see what the Pharisees said:

Matthew 12:22: "Then was brought to Him one who was possessed by a demon, blind and dumb; and He healed him, so that the one *who had been* blind and dumb both spoke and saw. And the multitudes were all amazed, and said, 'Is this the Son of David?' But when the Pharisees heard *this*, they said, 'This *Man* does not cast out demons except by Beelzebub, prince of the demons'" (vs 22-24).

We're going to see some of the other attitudes that the Pharisees had, and we're going to see exactly what Jesus called them.

Verse 25: "But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said to them, 'Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand. And if Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then shall his kingdom stand? And if I by Beelzebub cast out demons, by whom do your sons cast *them* out? On account of this, they shall be your judges. But if I by *the* Spirit of God cast out demons, then the Kingdom of God has come upon you'" (vs 25-28).

Verse 31: "Because of this, I say to you, every sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven to men except the blasphemy against the *Holy* Spirit; *that* shall not be forgiven to men."

- Can a person in this life commit the unpardonable sin? *Yes!*
- Can they commit the unpardonable sin being unconverted? *Yes!*
- Were these Pharisees unconverted? *Obviously! They were against Jesus!*

Verse 32: "And whoever speaks a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him; but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it shall not

be forgiven him, neither in this age nor in the coming *age*.” There’s no forgiveness in what we call the second resurrection.

Verse 33: “Either make the tree good and the fruit good, or make the tree corrupt and its fruit corrupt; for a tree is known by its fruit. **Offspring of vipers...** [that’s what Jesus called the Pharisees] ...how are you able to speak good things, being evil?...” (vs 33-34). There’s some of the attitudes of the Pharisees.

We’re going to see how desperate they became; this is what they thought of Jesus, and we’ll see more of what Jesus said of them, and a little be more of what they said of Jesus—both.

After Jesus made His triumphant entry; He came into Jerusalem and they were all shouting ‘Hosanna, glory to God in the highest.’

John 12:19: “Then the Pharisees said among themselves, ‘Do you see that we are not gaining in any way? Look! The world has gone after Him.’” Even though a person is evil, they are convinced that if something is happening they impute evil to someone else. That’s what they were doing with Jesus. ‘Look! They’re all going after Jesus; what are we going to do?’ I imagine that the Pharisees were out there saying these things, repeating these things, preaching them in the synagogue.

John 7:11: As a result, the Jews were seeking Him at the Feast, and said, ‘Where is He?’ Now there was much debating about Him among the people. Some said, ‘He is a good Man.’ But others said, ‘No, but He is deceiving the people’” (vs 11-12). Can you imagine all the propaganda that went around saying:

- this Man is deceiving the people
- yeah, He’s telling the not to keep the law
- Do you know that this Man actually goes and does work?
- Do you know that this Man actually has people carrying thing son the Sabbath?
- Do you know what this man is saying of Himself?
- How can this be of God?

John 5:16: “And for this cause, the Jews persecuted Jesus and sought to kill Him, because He had done these things on a Sabbath. But Jesus answered them, ‘My Father is working until now, and I work.’ So then, on account of this *saying*, the Jews sought all the more to kill Him, not only because He had loosed the Sabbath... [in *their* mind] ...but also *because* He had called God His own Father, making Himself equal with God” (vs 16-18).

To them that was the greatest blaspheme that could be, from their point of view, looking at

Jesus. Here’s Someone who says, ‘I’m the Son of God.’ Hasn’t this been said of people; maybe you’ve said some of these things concerning people. The Pharisees, after Jesus healed the man who was blind from birth, after the man was brought before the counsel and they asked: Who is this Man? How did He do it?

John 9:16: “Then some of the Pharisees said, ‘This Man is not from God...’ They say He’s deceiving the people and they say He claims that He’s the Son of God, and there can’t be anything more blasphemous than that. Then they said.

“...‘This Man is not from God because He does not keep the Sabbath.’” (v 16). Quite an attitude! I wonder if Judas began picking up on some these things? I wonder, with the demon that was in him and Satan coming along putting things in all the time—putting ideas into his mind all the time—if these things were not beginning to wear down upon Judas? And because he was stealing and taking? What happens? *The fear of getting caught!* I wonder if going out and selling the ointment would have replaced what he took, or if he would have taken the ointment and sold it for 500 and said, ‘I got 300.

It makes you wonder! I don’t know, I just bring those up as questions.

John 10:24: “Then the Jews encircled Him and said to Him, ‘How long are You going to hold us in suspense? If You are the Christ, tell us plainly.’ Jesus answered them, ‘I have told you, but you do not believe. The works that I am doing in My Father’s name, these bear witness of Me’” (vs 24-25).

Verse 30: “‘I and the Father are one.’ Then the Jews again picked up stones so that they might stone Him” (vs 30-31). You talk about being real excitable! You talk about having hate in your heart! They were looking around for stones. I don’t know how many were carrying some in their pockets—I don’t know if they had pockets in those robes or not—but some were just waiting around for the opportunity to throw a stone and hit Him.

Verse 32: “Jesus answered them, ‘Many good works I have showed you from My Father. For which of them are you about to stone Me?’ The Jews answered Him, saying, ‘We will not stone You for a good work, but for blasphemy, and because You, being a man, are making Yourself God.’ Jesus answered them, ‘Is it not written in your law, “I said, ‘You are gods’”? If He called them gods, to whom the Word of God came (and the Scriptures cannot be broken)’” (vs 32-35). You talk about just really nailing them; just grinding and grating against the Pharisees. Imagine that! He’s quoting the Scripture and saying it cannot be broken!

Verse 36: “*Why* do you say *of Him* Whom the Father has sanctified and sent into the world, “You are blaspheming,” because I said, “I am *the* Son of God”? If I do not do the works of My Father, do not believe Me. But if I do, even if you do not believe Me, believe the works; so that you may perceive and may believe that the Father *is* in Me, and I in Him.’ Then they again sought to take Him...” (vs 36-39). They ran to grab Him and Jesus just slipped out of the way.

Jesus really had a terrible life as a human being. They hounded Him all the time. Have you ever had people just ‘hound you to death’? That’s what they were doing with Jesus. Let’s see what Jesus said directly of them. Let’s notice concerning the attitude of the Pharisees, because somewhere along the line Judas had to agree with them. Somewhere along the line Judas had to say, ‘I believe that.’

John 7:28: “Then Jesus spoke out, teaching in the temple and saying, ‘You know Me, and you also know where I come from; yet, I have not come of Myself; but He Who sent Me is true, Whom you do not know. But I know Him because I am from Him, and He sent Me.’ Because of this *saying*, they were looking *for a way* to take Him; but no one laid a hand on Him because His time had not yet come” (vs 28-30).

John 8:29: ““And He Who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone because I always do the things that please Him.’ As He spoke these things, many believed in Him. Therefore, Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in Him, ‘If you continue in My Word, you are truly My disciples” (vs 29-31). Remember that He knew that there were those who didn’t believe.

Verse 32: ““And you shall know the Truth, and the Truth shall set you free.’ They answered Him, ‘We are Abraham’s seed, and have never been in bondage to anyone. What do You mean by saying, “You shall become free”?’” (vs 32-33).

Notice that even the sinners have a justification of what they’re doing. A lot of people say, ‘We’re *good* Catholics.’ That’s the great justification of it. ‘My father was a Catholic and his father was, and we’ve always been Catholics.’ Because the Catholics say, ‘We are the church, therefore, if you are Catholic you’re in good shape’—right? **Wrong!** Here they were saying, “We are Abraham’s seed...”

Verse 34: “Jesus answered them, ‘Truly, truly I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a servant of sin.... [the slave of sin] ...And the servant does not live in the house forever; *but* the Son lives forever. Therefore, if the Son shall set you free, you

shall truly be free. I know that you are Abraham’s seed... [Jesus knew that they were physically from Abraham as descendants] ...but you are seeking to kill Me, because My words do not enter into your *minds*. I speak the things that I have seen from My Father, and you do the things that you have seen from **your father**” (vs 34-38). This is where we know that Judas had to have the same attitude as the Pharisees.

Verse 39: “They answered and said to Him, ‘Our father is Abraham.’ Jesus said to them, ‘If you were Abraham’s children, you would do the works of Abraham. But now you seek to kill Me, a Man who has spoken the Truth to you...” (vs 39-40).

How many times have you had the experience where people get angry at you because you speak the Truth. I suppose there’s a way of saying the Truth sometimes where you don’t provoke anger. But here we have a situation where they sought to kill Him because He told them the Truth.

These are very strong words, v 41: ““You are doing the works of your father.’ Then they said to Him, ‘We have not been born of fornication. We have one Father, *and that is* God.’ Therefore, Jesus said to them, ‘If God were your Father, you would love Me, because I proceeded forth and came from God. For I have not come of Myself, but He sent Me. Why don’t you understand My speech? Because you cannot *bear* to hear My words. You are of *your* father the devil...” (vs 41-44).

If Judas Iscariot had a demon, who was Judas’ father? *The devil!* Could he have sold his soul during his lifetime so much to the devil that he was lost? *I think that in our understanding about the second resurrection*, we gloss over the fact too easily that a person can commit the unpardonable sin in this life, and though they are resurrected, *they have no forgiveness*, because Jesus said that if you *blaspheme against the Holy Spirit, you have no forgiveness* in this world or in the one that’s coming.’

“...and the lusts of your father you desire to practice. He was a murderer from *the* beginning, and has not stood in the Truth because there is no Truth in him....” (v 44). What is it that Judas Iscariot did? *He rejected the Truth and betrayed Jesus!*

“...Whenever he speaks a lie, he is speaking from his own *self*; for he is a liar, and the father of it. And because I speak the Truth, you do not believe Me. Which *one* of you can convict Me of sin? But if I speak *the* Truth, why don’t you believe Me? **The one who is of God hears the words of God....** [Always remember that!] ...For this reason you do not hear, because you are not of God.... [notice their reaction]: ...Then the Jews answered

and said to Him, ‘Are we not right in saying that You are a Samaritan and have a demon?’”

Quite an answer—isn’t it? Somewhere along the line, did Judas believe that Jesus was demon possessed, led of Beelzebul? Breaking the Law of God? Making Himself the Son of God? If so, ‘we better get rid of this guy!’ I would have to conclude that somewhere along the line Judas would have to believe that that were a fact.

John 11 talks about when they planned to actually kill Jesus. After Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead and went out and how famous Jesus was; all the Jews were following Him and so forth.

John 11:53: “Therefore, from that day they took counsel together, so that they might kill Him.” Then Jesus had to go hide Himself; He went across the Jordan River to hide from the rest of the Jews.

Let’s see some of the prophecies of the wicked; some of the prophecies concerning Judas. Let’s see how all of these fit together. We will survey quite a few of the Psalms. There’s a lot in the Psalms concerning either the attitude of Judas, the fate of Judas, the actual thing that he would do in betraying Jesus. All those are there.

Psalm 5:9: “For there is no Truth in their mouth; their inward part is destruction; their throat is an open grave; they flatter with their tongue.” Isn’t that what Jesus was saying of the Pharisees?

You might just review Matt. 23 where Jesus said, ‘Woe to the scribes and Pharisees; hypocrites!’ And all the things that they did:

- taking money from widows
- making long prayers
- making silly little rules concerning vows

Jesus said that they were like ‘whited sepulchres’; that they were filthy and rotten inside. “...their throat is an open grave; they flatter with their tongue.” If there’s any one thing that I cannot stand is flatteries! Every time someone comes to flatter you, *you know* that something’s going to happen. There’s a difference in being appreciative for something done well, that’s fine. But people come along and you can almost hear them purring and stroking as they come. Something’s going to happen. “...they flatter with their tongue.”

Verse 10: “Hold them guilty, O God; let them fall by their own counsels...”

- Did those who counseled to destroy Jesus fall by their own counsel? *Yes, they did!*
- Did God not almost wipe Jerusalem off the face of the earth because of rejecting Jesus Christ?
- Weren’t the Jews sent into captivity?

- And to this day they’re still wandering the face of the earth because of it? *Yes!*

“...cast them out in the multitude of their transgressions, for they have rebelled against You” (v 10). Did Judas rebel against Jesus? *Yes, he did!*

Psalm 7:9: “O let the evil of the wicked come to an end, but establish the righteous, for the righteous God tries the hearts and reins. My shield is with God, who saves the upright in heart. God is a righteous judge, and a God Who has indignation every day. If he does not turn, He will whet His sword; He has bent His bow and made it ready. Yea, He has also prepared for Himself weapons of death; He has made His arrows fiery shafts. Behold, he labors with iniquity, and he has conceived mischief, and has brought forth falsehood” (vs 9-14). All of those describe the very works of Judas Iscariot!

Verse 15: “He dug a pit and hollowed it out, and has fallen into the ditch which he made. His mischief shall return upon his own head... [we’re going to see that this happened to Judas Iscariot] ...and his violence shall come down upon his own crown” (vs 15-16). When the questions first came up:

- What about Judas Iscariot?
- What does the Bible tell us about Judas Iscariot?

At that time I was just starting to study through the Psalms, and as I was going through the Psalms all of these just hit me as part of what Judas would be like.

Psalm 35:4 “Let them be ashamed and brought to confusion, those who seek after my soul; let them be turned back and humiliated, those who devise evil against me.” Did that happen to all the Jews who were in on the crucifixion of Jesus Christ? *Absolutely!*

Verse 5: “Let them be as chaff before the wind; and let the angel of the LORD drive them away. Let their way be dark and slippery; and let the angel of the LORD pursue them; for without cause they have hidden their net for me; without cause they have dug a pit for my soul. Let destruction come upon him in a time he will not know; and let his net, which he has concealed catch him, let him fall into destruction. And my soul shall be joyful in the LORD; it shall rejoice in His salvation” (vs 5-9).

Psalm 36:1: “The wicked utters transgression in his heart. There is no fear of God before his eyes.” Did the Pharisees fear God, or did they only fear their own judgment and what they were doing among themselves. They didn’t fear God. Did Judas fear God? *No!*

Verse 2: “For he flatters himself in his own eyes...” That is so true, how people say how great

they are! I just wonder how Judas thought about himself. It doesn't say exactly how he thought about himself, but he must have thought pretty highly of himself in order to do what he did! He would have to think: 'I am saving the nation from this horrible, miserable Man.' Do the Jews today believe that very thing? *A lot of them do!*

"...until his iniquity is found to be hateful. The words of his mouth are iniquity and deceit; he has stopped acting wise and doing good.... [Judas sure did—didn't he?] ...He plots iniquity upon his bed; he sets himself in a way that is not good; he does not hate evil" (vs 2-4).

Psalm 37:32: "The wicked watches the righteous and seeks to kill him." What did Judas say? *I will give you an opportunity to arrest Him and take care of Him!*

Psalm 38:12: "And those who seek my life lay snares for me; and those who seek my hurt speak mischievous things, and plot deceptions all the day long." That's a perfect description of what they were doing against Jesus.

Psalm 41:5—here is a direct prophecy concerning Jesus and Judas: "My enemies speak evil of me, saying, 'When will he die, and his name perish?' And if he comes to see me, he speaks falsehood; his heart gathers iniquity to itself; he goes out and speaks of it" (vs 5-6). Perfect description of what the Pharisees were doing.

Verse 7: "All who hate me whisper against me; they plot evil against me." What did it say about the people? *They were talking about Him!*

Verse 9: "Even a man, my close friend in whom I trusted, who ate of my bread, has lifted up his heel against me." Direct reference to the betrayal of Jesus Christ by Judas Iscariot.

Here is another one that is a direct prophecy of the betrayal of Jesus Christ by Judas Iscariot; Psalm 55:14: "We took sweet counsel together and walked into the house of God with the throng." Remember how many times Jesus went up to the temple, and I'm sure the disciples were right there with Him.

Verse 20: "He has put forth his hands against those who were at peace with him; he has broken his covenant. The words of his mouth were smoother than butter, but war was in his heart..." (vs 20-21). Was there not war in the heart of Judas Iscariot to do away with Jesus? *Yes!*

"...his words were softer than oil, yet, they were drawn swords" (v 21). That's exactly what the Pharisees and Judas were doing.

Frankly, I was amazed when I went through

and was studying this from this point of view: I have never before thought of going through and studying in the Psalms to see if there was anything there about Judas Iscariot and Jesus. Sure enough, there's an awful lot there. These are only some of them.

Psalm 62:4: "They only consult to cast him down from his great height; they delight in lies; they bless with their mouth, but inwardly they curse. Selah." I imagine so with the Pharisees.

Psalm 64:2: "Hide me from the secret counsel of the wicked, from the rebellion of the workers of iniquity, who sharpen their tongue like a sword and bend their bows to shoot their arrows, even bitter words; so that they may shoot at the blameless from concealment—suddenly they shoot at him, and fear not. They encourage themselves in an evil plan; they talk of laying snares secretly; they say, 'Who shall see them?' They plot injustices, saying, 'We have made a perfect plan.' For the inward thought and heart of man is cunning. But God shall shoot at them with an arrow; suddenly they shall be wounded" (vs 2-7).

Those are the main Psalms just picking out the attitude of Judas Iscariot and the Pharisees and the attitude that they had.

John 13 tells us some of the activities that were going on between Judas and Satan. It tells us some of the attitudes that were there.

John 13:2: "And during supper (the devil having already put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, that he should betray Him)." Satan was putting that thought in there.

I wonder how long Satan was building up that thought in his mind, bringing to bear all of these things so that Judas would make that last betrayal. Now we're going to follow some of the parable accounts here in the Gospels concerning this particular event. We find in Matt. 26 the same account of the anointing two days before the Passover, and the thing that took place where Judas had this attitude of giving money to the poor. That's the thing that really ticked Judas off, this second anointing of Jesus. Remember the first one was with His feet six days before the Passover, and the second one was two days before the Passover, and it was His head. So, it's a different anointing.

Matthew 26:14: "Then one of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, **went to the chief priests.**" That's the thing that did it! He became offended. What did he do? *He went out to get revenge!*

Verse 15: "And said, 'What are you willing to give me, and I will deliver Him up to you?' And they offered him thirty pieces of silver." We find in Zech. 11:13 that it's told that His soul was sold for

30 pieces of silver.

Verse 16: “And from that time he sought an opportunity to betray Him.”

Luke 22:3: “Then **Satan entered into Judas**, who was surnamed Iscariot, being of the number of the twelve. And he went away, *and* spoke with the chief priests and the captains about a way by which he might betray Him to them. And they rejoiced, and agreed to give him money. And he promised, and sought *an* opportunity to betray Him to them away from *the* multitude” (vs 3-6). Satan possessed him. There were times when Satan was influencing, there were other times when Satan was possessing.

John 13 is another account of Satan *entering into and possessing* Judas. I want you to get in your mind the scene of this battle. Remember what I said at the beginning that here is God and here is Satan warring against each other as spirit beings. Now we have God in the flesh—Jesus Christ—Who is warring against Satan the devil *who possesses Judas!* So, we have Satan in the flesh and God in the flesh going head-to-head. Maybe you never quite thought of it that way, but that’s exactly what happened.

John 13:18: “I am not speaking of you all; *for* I know whom I have chosen, in order that the Scripture might be fulfilled: ‘He who eats bread with Me has lifted up his heel against Me.’”

Verse 26: Jesus answered, ‘It is the one to whom I shall give a sop after I have dipped *it*.’ And when He had dipped the sop, He gave *it* to Judas Iscariot, Simon’s *son*. And after the sop, **Satan entered into him**. Then Jesus said to him, ‘What you do, do quickly’” (vs 26-27). No one at the table knew what He was talking about, because they thought since Judas had the bag Jesus told him to go buy something for the Feast, but he didn’t.

Here is where Jesus was betrayed, John 18:1: “After saying these things, Jesus went out with His disciples *to a place* beyond the winter stream of Kidron, where *there* was a garden into which He and His disciples entered. And Judas, who was betraying Him, also knew of the place because Jesus had often gathered there with His disciples. Then Judas, after receiving a band and officers from the chief priests and Pharisees, came there with torches and lamps and weapons” (vs 1-3).

How was Jesus betrayed? *Judas gave the signal and he said to these men, ‘the one whom I kiss!’* We have many slang things from that we derive in our language today. It is called ‘the kiss of death.’ But you talk about something that is just absolutely beyond belief, how that God would humble Himself so much to become a human being,

to become that sacrifice for all human beings and then allow Satan, in the person of Judas Iscariot, to come up and kiss Him, *to betray Him!*

I don’t know about you, but every time I see one of these Russian premiers kiss an American President I just can’t get that out of my mind that it’s the same sort of hypocritical thing.

- Did Judas know what he was doing?
- Was he responsible even though he was a demon?
- Even though he was Satan possessed?
- Was he lost?

John 17:12: “When I was with them in the world, I kept them in Your name. I protected those whom You have given Me, and not one of them has perished **except the son of perdition...**” That’s pretty strong language! Who is also called the ‘son of perdition, the man of sin’? *The one who is known as the beast!* (2-Thess. 2; Rev. 16; 19).

What’s going to happen to the beast and the false prophet? *They’re going to be cast into the Lake of Fire!* Jesus said that Judas was lost, the son of perdition. If we believed the Scripture we would have to conclude that *Judas is lost*. Someone would bring up that he was demon possessed, Satan possessed; then we have to answer the question this way: Are there some that are raised up by God who are made for destruction? *Yes, there are some!*

1-Peter 2:10: “But particularly those who walk after *the* flesh in corrupting lust, and hold in utter contempt *the* lordship of God....” Did Judas despise the governance of God in his life? *Yes, he did!*

“...*They are* audacious and self-willed. They are not afraid to blaspheme *the* divine powers” (v 10). Was Judas not afraid to speak evil of dignitaries? *Yes!* Of Jesus, the very Son of God!

Verse 11: “Whereas, angels, who are greater in strength and power, do not bring a railing condemnation against them before *the* Lord. But these—as irrational brute beasts, born to be caught and destroyed—blaspheme those things of which they are ignorant, *and* shall be utterly destroyed in their own corruption” (vs 11-12).

These Scriptures indicate very clearly that Judas may have committed the unpardonable sin! We know the final judgment is upon Judas by God. He doesn’t tell us directly, but He says that Judas is lost; He says, ‘he’s the son of perdition.’ The Scriptures say that there are those who are “...irrational brute beasts, born to be caught and destroyed...”

You can read the rest of 2-Peter about how they come to the Feasts and pretend to be lovely,

sweet and all this sort of thing.

Let's ask about the repentance of Judas, Matthew 27:3 "Now, when Judas, who had betrayed Him, saw that He was condemned, he changed his mind *and* returned the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders, saying, 'I have sinned and have betrayed innocent blood.' But they said, 'What *is that* to us? You see *to it* yourself.' And after throwing down the pieces of silver in the temple, he went out and hanged himself" (vs 3-5).

- Was this a Godly repentance?
- or
- Was this a repentance of the world?

We can't determine that, therefore, God is going to have to make that final judgment!

- Why did Judas hang himself?

It says in another place that his bowels split open and fell out.

- What is the penalty for murder? *Death!*
- Did Judas betray Jesus unto death? *Yes!*
- Who was going to execute that against Judas?
 - ✓ The disciples?
 - ✓ The priests?
 - ✓ Pilate?
 - ✓ Herod?

No! God did it! Judas hung himself, but you read in Gen. 38 how God slew 'so and so' because he was so wicked. God is the One Who executed the judgment upon Judas, and he died! He had to die because he betrayed Jesus! Furthermore, he could not live because just think what would happen to him, bearing down on his mind his whole life, if there was any sense of conscious that he might have.

- it appears that Judas is lost
- it appears that he was raised up for that purpose
- it appears that God executed Judas

But just going through this whole thing and seeing all the evil thoughts, the contention, the hatred, and all of those things involved with Judas Iscariot, I can see why people very seldom go in and study this to answer the question: Why? One of the biggest reasons they don't want to is because it's too painful or it exposes their own human nature to what it really is.

But there is sure one thing that is true, 'there is a way that seems right to a man, the ends thereof are the ways of death'! That is true of Judas Iscariot!

There's one other lesson that we can learn here:

- ***We should always love God***
- ***We should always serve God***

And we should never take into our hand to do those things that are the judgments of God!

All Scriptures from *The Holy Bible in Its Original Order, A Faithful Version* by Fred R. Coulter

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- 1) John 1:1-3
- 2) Ezekiel 28:14-18
- 3) Luke 4:1-11
- 4) Mark 1:12-17
- 5) Mark 3:1-19
- 6) Luke 6:1-12, 16
- 7) Matthew 10:1-2, 4-8
- 8) Luke 10:9, 17-20
- 9) John 6:64-71
- 10) Matthew 16:28
- 11) Matthew 17:1
- 12) John 12:3-5
- 13) Matthew 12:22-28, 31-34
- 14) John 12:19
- 15) John 7:11-12
- 16) John 5:16-18
- 17) John 9:16
- 18) John 10:24-25, 30-39
- 19) John 7:28-30
- 20) John 8:29-48
- 21) John 11:53
- 22) Psalm 5:9-10
- 23) Psalm 7:9-16
- 24) Psalm 35:4-9
- 25) Psalm 36:1-4
- 26) Psalm 37:32
- 27) Psalm 38:12
- 28) Psalm 41:5-7, 9
- 29) Psalm 55:14, 20-21
- 30) Psalm 62:4
- 31) Psalm 64:2-7
- 32) John 13:2
- 33) Matthew 26:15-16
- 34) Luke 22:3-6
- 35) John 13:18, 26-27
- 36) John 18:1-3
- 37) John 17:12
- 38) 2 Peter 2:10-12
- 39) Matthew 27:3-5

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Revelation 12
- Isaiah 14
- Matthew 23
- Zechariah 11:13
- 2 Thessalonians 2
- Revelation 16; 19

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