
First Baptist Dyersburg • Sermon Notes

Judas Iscariot – The Betrayer

Message #13 in the series

Lessons from People Like Us

Sunday, September 6, 2026 • Mike Hickman, Senior Pastor

1. Jesus _____ Judas as one of the twelve apostles.

¹² One day soon afterward Jesus went up on a mountain to pray, and he prayed to God all night. ¹³ At daybreak he called together all of his disciples and chose twelve of them to be apostles. Here are their names: ¹⁴ Simon (whom he named Peter), Andrew (Peter's brother), James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, ¹⁵ Matthew, Thomas, James (son of Alphaeus), Simon (who was called the zealot), ¹⁶ Judas (son of James), and Judas Iscariot (who later betrayed him). (Luke 6:12-16, NLT)

⁶¹ Jesus was aware that his disciples were complaining, so he said to them, "Does this offend you?" ⁶² Then what will you think if you see the Son of Man ascend to heaven again? ⁶³ The Spirit alone gives eternal life. Human effort accomplishes nothing. And the very words I have spoken to you are spirit and life. ⁶⁴ But some of you do not believe me." (For Jesus knew from the beginning which ones didn't believe, and he knew who would betray him.) ⁶⁵ Then he said, "That is why I said that people can't come to me unless the Father gives them to me."

⁶⁶ At this point many of his disciples turned away and deserted him. ⁶⁷ Then Jesus turned to the Twelve and asked, "Are you also going to leave?"

⁶⁸ Simon Peter replied, "Lord, to whom would we go? You have the words that give eternal life. ⁶⁹ We believe, and we know you are the Holy One of God."

⁷⁰ Then Jesus said, "I chose the twelve of you, but one is a devil." ⁷¹ He was speaking of Judas, son of Simon Iscariot, one of the Twelve, who would later betray him. (John 6:61-71, NLT)

2. The name Judas means _____.

- Probably came from the town of Kerieth – Hezron in southern Judea. (Joshua 15:25)
- His father's name was Simon. (John 6:71)

3. He was in a leadership position of great trust as the _____ of the apostles.

⁶ Not that he cared for the poor—he was a thief, and since he was in charge of the disciples' money, he often stole some for himself. (John 12:6, NLT)

4. Judas' role of betrayal was _____ from the foundation of the world and even prophesied in the Old Testament.

¹⁸ "I am not saying these things to all of you; I know the ones I have chosen. But this fulfills the Scripture that says, 'The one who eats my food has turned against me.' (John 13:18, NLT)

¹² It is not an enemy who taunts me—I could bear that. It is not my foes who so arrogantly insult me—I could have hidden from them.

¹³ Instead, it is you—my equal, my companion and close friend.

¹⁴ What good fellowship we once enjoyed as we walked together to the house of God. (Psalm 55:12-14, NLT)

⁹ This fulfilled the prophecy of Jeremiah that says, "They took the thirty pieces of silver—the price at which he was valued by the people of Israel, ¹⁰ and purchased the potter's field, as the LORD directed." (Matthew 27:9-10, NLT)

²⁰ After supper he took another cup of wine and said, "This cup is the new covenant between God and his people—an agreement confirmed with my blood, which is poured out as a sacrifice for you.

²¹ "But here at this table, sitting among us as a friend, is the man who will betray me. ²² For it has been determined that the Son of Man must die. But what sorrow awaits the one who betrays him." (Luke 22:20-22, NLT)

¹² During my time here, I protected them by the power of the name you gave me. I guarded them so that not one was lost, except the one headed for destruction, as the Scriptures foretold. (John 17:12, NLT)

Charles Spurgeon said this about the tension between divine sovereignty and human choice:

If . . . I find taught in one part of the Bible that everything is ordained, that is true; and if I find, in another Scripture, that man is responsible for all his actions, that is true; and it is only my folly that leads me to imagine that these two truths can ever

contradict each other. I do not believe they can ever be welded into one upon any earthly anvil, but they certainly shall be one in eternity. They are two lines that are so nearly parallel, that the human mind which pursues them farthest will never discover that they converge, but they do converge, and they will meet somewhere in eternity, close to the throne of God, whence all truth doth spring. (Twelve Ordinary Men by John MacArthur, page 185.)

What lessons can we learn from Judas and his life?

1. It was a tragic example of _____.

²⁸ Then Jesus said, "Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light." (Matthew 11:28-30, NLT)

⁷ So humble yourselves before God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸ Come close to God, and God will come close to you. Wash your hands, you sinners; purify your hearts, for your loyalty is divided between God and the world. ⁹ Let there be tears for what you have done. Let there be sorrow and deep grief. Let there be sadness instead of laughter, and gloom instead of joy. ¹⁰ Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up in honor. (James 4:7-10, NLT)

- **He wasted his _____ of being an apostle.**

2. He demonstrates the evil of _____.

¹⁰ For the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil. And some people, craving money, have wandered from the true faith and pierced themselves with many sorrows. (1 Timothy 6:10, NLT)

3. He shows the _____ of spiritual betrayal.

- **He gave his _____ to be near Jesus, but he never gave Jesus his _____.**

⁹ If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is

by openly declaring your faith that you are saved. (Romans 10:9-10, NLT)

So we must listen very carefully to the truth we have heard, or we may drift away from it. (Hebrews 2:1, NLT)

¹⁶ You can identify them by their fruit, that is, by the way they act. Can you pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? ¹⁷ A good tree produces good fruit, and a bad tree produces bad fruit. ¹⁸ A good tree can't produce bad fruit, and a bad tree can't produce good fruit. ¹⁹ So every tree that does not produce good fruit is chopped down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰ Yes, just as you can identify a tree by its fruit, so you can identify people by their actions. ²¹ "Not everyone who calls out to me, 'Lord! Lord!' will enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Only those who actually do the will of my Father in heaven will enter. ²² On judgment day many will say to me, 'Lord! Lord! We prophesied in your name and cast out demons in your name and performed many miracles in your name.' ²³ But I will reply, 'I never knew you. Get away from me, you who break God's laws.' (Matthew 7:16-23, NLT)

4. Judas demonstrates how the _____ of God cannot be thwarted.

⁸ But when people keep on sinning, it shows that they belong to the devil, who has been sinning since the beginning. But the Son of God came to destroy the works of the devil. (1 John 3:8, NLT)

¹⁴ Because God's children are human beings—made of flesh and blood—the Son also became flesh and blood. For only as a human being could he die, and only by dying could he break the power of the devil, who had the power of death. (Hebrews 2:14, NLT)

¹⁷ And remember that the heavenly Father to whom you pray has no favorites. He will judge or reward you according to what you do. So you must live in reverent fear of him during your time here as "temporary residents." ¹⁸ For you know that God paid a ransom to save you from the empty life you inherited from your ancestors. And it was not paid with mere gold or silver, which lose their value. ¹⁹ It was the precious blood of Christ, the sinless, spotless Lamb of God. ²⁰ God chose him as your ransom long before the world began, but now in these last days he has been revealed for your sake. ²¹ Through Christ you have come to trust in God. And you have placed your faith and hope in God because he raised Christ from the dead and gave him great glory. (1 Peter 1:17-21, NLT)