

JUDAS ISCARIOT

There are numerous persons mentioned in the New Testament with the name Judas. It was a common name in that day. Among others, one of Jesus' half-brothers was a Judas **(Mark 6:3)**. Of all the Judas' mentioned in the New Testament, none is more infamous than Judas Iscariot, the disciple who betrayed Jesus. Now that he has been identified specifically, we will only refer to him as Judas.

Judas was the treasurer for Jesus and his disciples. He held the money bag and was known to have stolen from it on occasion **(John 12:4-6)**, foretelling the evil he would be party to in betraying the Lord:

Money was important to him as he would betray Jesus for the sum of thirty silver coins **(Matthew 26:13-15)**.

At the Last Supper, Jesus revealed that Judas would betray him when he said, **“It is the one to whom I will give this piece of bread when I have dipped it in the dish.” Then, dipping the piece of bread, he gave it to Judas Iscariot, son of Simon” (John 13:26)**. The other disciples had no clue about the evil in Judas' heart.

Being the third person of the Trinity, God Himself, Jesus knew that Judas was not 'clean' **(John 13:10)** and would betray him. Jesus called him a 'devil' **(John 6:70-71)**, made crystal clear later with the words of John, **“as soon as Judas took the bread, Satan entered into him” (John 13:27)**.

As Judas departed the Last Supper, the disciples thought he was just leaving to buy food or distribute something to the poor **(John 13:28-29)**. What he did, however, was go to the chief priests, with whom he had arranged the plot, and led an entourage of priests, officers of the temple guard, and elders to Jesus for his arrest. Judas kissed Jesus, a pre-arranged signal to the chief priests of the one to be arrested **(Mark 14:44-45)**. Everything that happened to Jesus after the betrayal by Judas is the passion story of Jesus' examination by the Sanhedrin, trial before Pilate, torture, and crucifixion.

It is clear from the biblical narrative about Judas that he was overwhelmed with remorse by what he did to Jesus, so he took his own life **(Matthew 27:3-5)**. With the thirty pieces

of silver that Judas returned to the chief priests in the temple, a potter's field was purchased with the 'blood money' and Judas was buried there (**Matthew 27:7-8**). This had been prophesied many years earlier (**Zechariah 11:12-13**).

Closing Thoughts

The story of Judas is a sad one. How could a companion of Jesus turn on Him? Judas was a chosen disciple and supposed 'friend' of Jesus. His betrayal as a 'friend' was revealed centuries earlier (**Psalm 41:9**) and led not only to the death of Jesus, but his own.

We find it hard to believe that Judas was a born-again believer. Sin and evil were already bound up in his heart, leading to Jesus' statement, "one of you is a devil" (**John 6:70**). For that, he will surely be judged harshly.

We pray that you are a trusted follower of Jesus who has confessed sin and made Jesus the Savior of your soul. If you are not, we urge you to repent, remove the evil and sin that may be binding your life, and be set free. **True life** only comes through Jesus Christ!

This is an introduction on the subject of **Judas**. Here are a few other resources you may wish to explore:

[Who was Judas Iscariot? | GotQuestions.org](#)

[Who Was Judas Iscariot? His Life and Betrayal \(christianity.com\)](#)

[Judas | Bible.org](#)

[What Does the Bible Say About Judas? \(openbible.info\)](#)

[Who Was Judas Iscariot? The Beginner's Guide | OverviewBible](#)