

The Betrayer Revealed

John 13:18-30

18 "I do not speak concerning all of you. I know whom I have chosen; but that the Scripture may be fulfilled, 'He who eats bread with Me has lifted up his heel against Me.' 19 "Now I tell you before it comes, that when it does come to pass, you may believe that I am He. 20 "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who receives whomever I send receives Me; and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me." 21 When Jesus had said these things, He was troubled in spirit, and testified and said, "Most assuredly, I say to you, one of you will betray Me." 22 Then the disciples looked at one another, perplexed about whom He spoke. 23 Now there was leaning on Jesus' bosom one of His disciples, whom Jesus loved. 24 Simon Peter therefore motioned to him to ask who it was of whom He spoke. 25 Then, leaning back on Jesus' breast, he said to Him, "Lord, who is it?" 26 Jesus answered, "It is he to whom I shall give a piece of bread when I have dipped it." And having dipped the bread, He gave it to Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon. 27 Now after the piece of bread, Satan entered him. Then Jesus said to him, "What you do, do quickly." 28 But no one at the table knew for what reason He said this to him. 29 For some thought, because Judas had the money box, that Jesus had said to him, "Buy those things we need for the feast," or that he should give something to the poor. 30 Having received the piece of bread, he then went out immediately. And it was night. NKJV

I. He was not clean.

A. He had it in his heart to betray Jesus.

1. It is the heart that is deceitful above all things, and is desperately wicked.
 - a. Jer 17:9 "The heart is deceitful above all things, And desperately wicked; Who can know it? 10 I, the Lord, search the heart, I test the mind, Even to give every man according to his ways, According to the fruit of his doings. NKJV
2. In this action Judas had opened up to the influence of Satan.
 - a. God does not force people to follow Him and Satan cannot force people to follow him.
 - b. It is something that a person opens up his life to.
 - c. But there are so many ways in which people open themselves up to the leadership and influence of Satan.
 - (1) by harboring the wrong things in their heart.
 - (2) by indulging in things God has plainly commanded we should not do.
 - (3) by following the occult or the powers of darkness.
 - (4) even things as simple as the Ouija Board can be portals of

evil.

(5) Dt 18:11 or one who conjures spells, or a medium, or a spiritist, or one who calls up the dead. 12 For all who do these things are an abomination to the Lord, and because of these abominations the Lord your God drives them out from before you.

(6) Lev 20:27 'A man or a woman who is a medium, or who has familiar spirits, shall surely be put to death; they shall stone them with stones. Their blood shall be upon them.' "

B. Soon he will be possessed by Satan himself.

1. Satan is a real spiritual being, not just an idea or an influence in society.

a. He does not represent evil but is the very personification of evil.

2. What happened to Judas does not happen to many, but only a few people in history.

3. It is not something that a Christian needs to worry about.

II. He was chosen by Jesus to be an apostle.

A. Jesus knew all along who it was that would betray Him.

1. Although Jesus knew who was His own and who was not, no one else had an idea.

a. This tells us that for a time people may pretend to be Christians, but they will fall away.

B. It is significant that Jesus was troubled.

1. 21. "When Jesus had thus said, he was troubled in (the) spirit. These words imply a sudden accession of sorrow, a great disturbance of soul, as his mind turned again to the faithless one who was about to betray him. The human nature of Jesus was subject to agitation, conflict, and grief; for it was a real human nature—one that made him liable to temptation. The sight of Judas, unmoved by his act of condescending love, the washing the disciples' feet ; unmoved by his reference to the betrayal, in verse 18; and wearing still a mask of hypocrisy which deceived his fellow disciples, filled the spirit of Jesus with grief and indignation." Alvah Hovey, *John*

2. "He was troubled in spirit; in his soul, which shows him to be truly and really man, and to have an human soul, which some have denied; and that to be of like passions with ours, only without sin: he was troubled, not at what he had said, but at what he was about to say concerning the betrayer; and that not so much on his own account, because of the danger, the

sorrows, and sufferings he should be exposed to, as on account of the horrible blackness of the crime, and the vengeance that would fall upon the criminal; and being thus inwardly distressed at this affair," Gill

C. Jesus knew that the Scriptures must be fulfilled.

1. Ps 41:9 Even my own familiar friend in whom I trusted, Who ate my bread, Has lifted up his heel against me.

III. Jesus reveals the betrayer to the closest disciples.

A. The manner in which it happened.

1. "Jesus first declares that one of the twelve shall betray him. (Ver. 21; comp. Matt. 26: 21; Luke 22 : 21; Mark 14 : 18.) They, in amazement, inquire : Lord, is it I ? is it I ?' (Matt. 26:22; Mark 14:18; Luke 22: 23), and Peter makes a sign to John, leaning on Jesus' bosom, that he should ask who it was. (Ver. 24.) John does so ; and Jesus gives him privately a sign by which he may know the traitor, viz.: the sop. (ver. 25, 26) The amazement and inquiry still continuing, Jesus gives the sop to Judas (ver. 26) ; who, then conscience-smitten, but desiring to conceal his confusion, asks, as the others had done: Lord, is it I?' (Matt 26:25) Jesus answers him (Matt. 26: 25; John 13 :27), and he immediately goes out."—(Robinson's "Harmony,") We have inserted in parentheses the references not given by Robinson. Alvah Hovey, *John*

B. Peter beckons to John and John asks Jesus.

C. Jesus lets them know by giving the special morsel to Judas.

1. "The sop was a morsel, or small piece of bread, probably of the thin, flexible, unleavened loaf eaten at the Passover. Westcott says: 'It is an Eastern custom, at present, for the host to give a small ball of meat to the guest whom he wishes to honor. The reference here may be to this custom.' But there is little reason to suppose that Jesus meant to put any special honor on Judas. The most that can be said in this direction is, that his act was friendly, making one more appeal to the traitor's heart. It was an act of 'sorrowful good will.'"—Meyer. Alvah Hovey, *John*

D. He then tells him that what he is going to do to do it quickly.

E. Immediately Judas leaves.