

"Judas' Replacement"

Part 2

Introduction: Last week in our study of Acts we were looking at Judas and the need to replace him after his death.

Notice Acts 1:15-20

We also got into his life and looked at how close he walked beside the Lord.

Matthew 10:1-7

And when he had called unto him his twelve disciples, he gave them power against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease.

² *Now the names of the twelve apostles are these; The first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother;*

³ *Philip, and Bartholomew; Thomas, and Matthew the publican; James the son of Alphaeus, and Lebbaeus, whose surname was Thaddaeus;*

⁴ *Simon the Canaanite, and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed him.*

⁵ *These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them, saying, Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into any city of the Samaritans enter ye not:*

⁶ *But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.*

⁷ *And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand.*

In this text we were able to see that Judas was empowered to do miracles and he also preached of the coming Kingdom.

Tonight I want to take you through the Scriptures to learn more about Judas.

The Title given to Judas

As we search the Scriptures, we shall see that Judas had many names and each one had a specific meaning.

1. Judas Iscariot

The name "Judas" is a very honorable name. It is a Greek name for Judah. Judah was one of the sons of Jacob and it would be from the tribe of Judah that Jesus Christ would be born. The name Judas/Judah means "may He/God be praised."

Genesis 29:32-35

³² *And Leah conceived, and bare a son, and she called his name Reuben: for she said, Surely the LORD hath looked upon my affliction; now therefore my husband will love me.*

³³ *And she conceived again, and bare a son; and said, Because the LORD hath heard I was hated, he hath therefore given me this son also: and she called his name Simeon.*

³⁴ *And she conceived again, and bare a son; and said, Now this time will my husband be joined unto me, because I have born him three sons: therefore was his name called Levi.*

³⁵ *And she conceived again, and bare a son: and she said, Now will I praise the LORD: therefore she called his name Judah; and left bearing.*

So, considering Judas, we can understand that his parents very were possibly believers who were following the Lord.

The name "Iscaiot" tells us where he was from.

Joshua 15:21a, 25

²¹ *And the uttermost cities of the tribe of the children of Judah toward the coast of Edom southward were...*

²⁵ *And Hazor, Hadattah, and Kerioth, and Hezron, which is Hazor,*

Judas was from Judea; he was a man of Kerioth. Therefore, he is called Judas Iscaiot.

Now let us get back to his name "Judas." He was given a very good name by his parents, but he failed to live up to the meaning of his name. His life was the opposite of the meaning of his name. His life corrupted his name.

Application:

What about us? If we know Jesus Christ as our Savior, then we are called "Christians." "Believers," "Born Again Believers," or "Followers of Jesus Christ." Does your life compliment your name? Many believers have polluted their name by getting involved in sin or by living a careless and a reckless spiritual life. We all need to be reminded that as believers we are here to glorify our God.

Philippians 1:20-21

²⁰ *According to my earnest expectation and my hope, that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but that with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether it be by life, or by death.*

²¹ *For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.*

2. The Betrayer

Matthew 26:46

⁴⁶ *Rise, let us be going: behold, he is at hand that doth **betray** me.*

The word "betray" means "to hand over or to deliver over." This is exactly what Judas did. He handed Jesus over to a group of men who then arrested Him.

Matthew 26:46-50

⁴⁶ *Rise, let us be going: behold, he is at hand that doth betray me.*

⁴⁷ *And while he yet spake, lo, Judas, one of the twelve, came, and with him a great multitude with swords and staves, from the chief priests and elders of the people.*

⁴⁸ *Now he that betrayed him gave them a sign, saying, Whomsoever I shall kiss, that same is he: hold him fast.*

⁴⁹ *And forthwith he came to Jesus, and said, Hail, master; and kissed him.*

⁵⁰ *And Jesus said unto him, Friend, wherefore art thou come? Then came they, and laid hands on Jesus and took him.*

Judas was very good at covering up who he really was. Here in Matthew 26 he used a kiss of love to disguise the rebellion in his heart. This kiss was so sincere that had we been there we would have never noticed his betrayal. This man was very good at wearing a mask.

Notice the words of Krummacher;

Judas came to Jesus **"like a poisonous viper [snake] hissing forth from a rose-bush to pollute the Son of man with his treacherous kiss."**

Let me show you his ability to wear a mask of coverup.

John 6:3-6

³ Then took Mary a pound of ointment of spikenard, very costly, and anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped his feet with her hair: and the house was filled with the odour of the ointment.

⁴ Then saith one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, which should betray him,

⁵ Why was not this ointment sold for three hundred pence, and given to the poor?

⁶ This he said, not that he cared for the poor; but because he was a thief, and had the bag, and bare what was put therein.

Judas had his mask on and this time his mask gave the impression that he truly cared about the poor. But when he saw Mary pour out the expensive perfume, he was only thinking of the money he could have gained if the perfume would have been sold and the money put in the bag. He fooled many people as he hid behind the mask, but he never fooled God.

Matthew 26:21-25

²¹ And as they did eat, he said, Verily I say unto you, that one of you shall betray me.

²² And they were exceeding sorrowful, and began every one of them to say unto him, Lord, is it I?

²³ And he answered and said, He that dippeth his hand with me in the dish, the same shall betray me.

²⁴ The Son of man goeth as it is written of him: but woe unto that man by whom the Son of man is betrayed! it had been good for that man if he had not been born.

²⁵ Then Judas, which betrayed him, answered and said, Master, is it I? He said unto him, Thou hast said.

Jesus said what He did to give Judas an opportunity to repent and to rip off the mask to confess what he was really like. But Judas continued to hide behind the mask until the very end.

3. The Son of Perdition

John 17:11-12

¹¹ *And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are.*

¹² *While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled.*

This name says much about Judas. There is one other man in the Bible who is given the name "son of perdition."

2 Thessalonians 2:

³ *Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;*

⁴ *Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.*

The Anti-Christ is the other person who is called the "son of perdition." The word "perdition" means "ruin, destruction." Both Judas and the Anti-Christ will perish. They will both be cast into the Lake of Fire, and they will both experience spiritual destruction and ruin.

4. A Devil

John 6:

⁷⁰ *Jesus answered them, Have not I chosen you twelve, and one of you is a devil?*

⁷¹ *He spake of Judas Iscariot the son of Simon: for he it was that should betray him, being one of the twelve.*

The meaning behind Judas being a devil is that he had placed himself in a position to be used by Satan. He had become an instrument in the hands of Satan, and he would eventually be possessed by Satan.

Luke 22:1-3

Now the feast of unleavened bread drew nigh, which is called the Passover.

² And the chief priests and scribes sought how they might kill him; for they feared the people.

³ Then entered Satan into Judas surnamed Iscariot, being of the number of the twelve.

John 13:27

²⁷ And after the sop Satan entered into him. Then said Jesus unto him, That thou doest, do quickly.

Satan has many who serve him today. They are often church attenders, people who read their Bibles, people who can tell you about Jesus, and people who serve in a church. They are often just like Judas in that they look to be walking close to the Lord. But they have never been saved.

There is no such thing as walking on neutral ground. A person is either on the Lord's side or they are on Satan's side. They are either serving the Lord or they are serving Satan.

Conclusion:

Even as believers we can contribute to the Devil's work when we drift away from the Lord. We have been given very honorable names as believers. Let us be sure to live in such a way that we do not tarnish and pollute the name given to us by our God.

Hebrews 3:1

Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus;