

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Can a true follower of Christ betray Him?
2. Was Judas responsible for his actions and for casting his own life away?
3. How precious is your soul? (Matthew 16:26; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20)
4. How was Jesus' new commandment "new"?
5. In this modern day can the new commandment still be lived? How?

SUMMARY:

Judas Iscariot, a traitor, fulfilling prophecy concerning Christ's death, is a picture for the believer. Somehow, he ended up carrying the bag for the disciples. The love of money is the root of all evil. Judas seemed to love it so greatly that he sold the life of Christ for thirty pieces of silver. May we never love anything to such an extent that we would deny Christ the love that is due Him.

NOTES:

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #3

April 19, 2026

Second Quarter

CHRIST ANNOUNCES HIS BETRAYAL

LESSON TEXT: *John 13:18-35*

LESSON SETTING: The upper room at Jerusalem.

TIME: Approximately 33 A.D.

I. ANNOUNCING THE BETRAYAL. John 13:18-21

- A. Betrayal Prophesied (vs. 18) Psalm 41:9; Obadiah 7
- B. Betrayal Planned. Matthew 26:14-16
- C. Betrayal Accepted by Priests. Mark 14:11

II. IDENTIFYING THE BETRAYER. John 13:22-30

- A. Known by Christ. Matthew 26:2; John 13:21
- B. Revealed by Christ. Matthew 26:23; John 13:26
- C. Condemned by Christ. Matthew 26:24; Mark 14:21; Acts 1:15-20

III. GIVING A NEW COMMANDMENT. John 13:31-35

- A. New Commandment (vs. 34) Ephesians 5:2; 1 Thessalonians 4:9
- B. Love Manifested (vs. 35) John 10:17; 1 John 3:16
- C. Love Rewarded. John 14:21, 23; 1 John 3:1-2

GOLDEN TEXT: *WOE TO THAT MAN BY WHOM THE SON OF MAN IS BETRAYED!*
Mark 14:21

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: John 14:1-31

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: Psalm 34:1-18; Psalm 146:1-10;
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18;
Revelation 21:1-27

QUARTERLY THEME: Christ, the Son of God

TOPIC: CHRIST ENCOURAGES HIS FOLLOWERS

INTRODUCTION: When one is discouraged, what an encouragement it is to know Jesus is coming again to receive us unto Himself! He promised this to His disciples and to all who love His appearing. "For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air and so shall we ever be with the Lord." (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17)

What a comfort it is to know that there is a better place: for "eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him". (1 Corinthians 2:9) Certainly, nothing should discourage us when we have the assurance that "the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us." (Romans 8:18)

In spite of the many promises God gives us in His Word of being with Him, we still need encouragement along the way. Jesus, knowing the short-sightedness of His followers, promised that His Father would give another Comforter, the Holy Spirit, that He may abide in us forever. The Lord says that we know Him, "For He dwelleth with you, and shall be in you." (John 14:17b)

We don't have to wait for Jesus to come in order to experience the joy of God's presence—He is in us now. We don't have to wait to have fellowship with God. "Our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ." (1 John 1:3) We don't have to wait to worship Him before His throne of grace. Rather than just an escape from this present world, heaven is also a fulfillment of the joy and peace God gives to every believer and follower of Him.

CENTRAL TRUTH: Only Jesus Christ can bring true comfort to the soul.

GOLDEN TEXT: *LET NOT YOUR HEART BE TROUBLED: YE BELIEVE IN GOD, BELIEVE ALSO IN ME.* John 14:1

The disciples at this time were very troubled by the words of Jesus: "Whither I go, ye cannot come." (John 13:33) While they did believe in God, and they had much confidence in Jesus during His ministry, they did not understand the purpose of His death. They did not understand the relationship of Christ to His Father as revealed by Philip when he asked Jesus: "Lord, shew us the Father." (vs. 8)

Jesus explains that "no man cometh unto the Father, but by me". (vs. 6b) We can believe in God, but it has no meaning if we do not believe in Christ, the mediator between God and man. To know the Father, we must know Christ. To see the Father, we must see Christ. To the disciples this was a new teaching wherein God spoke through His Son: "God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by His Son." (Hebrews 1:1-2)

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF April 20 – 26

Mon. Sorrow of Christ. Matthew 23:34-39
Tue. Mission of Christ. Matthew 9:10-13
Wed. *Plans of Christ. John 14:1-6
Thu. *Identity of Christ. John 14:7-14
Fri. *Commandment of Christ. John 14:15-25
Sat. *Promise of Christ. John 14:26-31
Sun. Reign of Christ. Revelation 21:1-7

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