

Thirty Pieces of Silver
Dr. J.B. Buffington
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How would you like to be sold for sixteen or seventeen dollars? That was what Judas sold Jesus for. Open your Bibles to two places. I have been preaching through the Gospel of John. I want to read one cross reference. Turn to Matthew 26 and John 13. Matthew 26:14-15: *Then one of the twelve, called Judas Iscariot, went unto the chief priests, And said unto them, What will ye give me, and I will deliver him unto you? And they covenanted with him for thirty pieces of silver.* Now, go to John 13. We will begin reading in verse 17: *If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them. I speak not of you all: I know whom I have chosen: but that the scripture may be fulfilled, He that eateth bread with me hath lifted up his heel against me. Now I tell you before it come, that, when it is come to pass, ye may believe that I am he. Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that receiveth whomsoever I send receiveth me; and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me. When Jesus had thus said, he was troubled in spirit, and testified, and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, that one of you shall betray me. Then the disciples looked one on another, doubting of whom he spake. Now there was leaning on Jesus' bosom one of his disciples, whom Jesus loved. Simon Peter therefore beckoned to him, that he should ask who it should be of whom he spake. He then lying on Jesus' breast saith unto him, Lord, who is it? Jesus answered, He it is, to whom I shall give a sop, when I have dipped it. And when he had dipped the sop, he gave it to Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon. And after the sop Satan entered into him. Then said Jesus unto him, That thou doest, do quickly. Now no man at the table knew for what intent he spake this unto him. For some of them thought, because Judas had the bag, that Jesus had said unto him, Buy those things that we have need of against the feast; or, that he should give something to the poor. He then having received the sop went immediately out: and it was night.* There was a day similar to what I am talking about. One day as John the Baptist stood preaching repentance and baptism as indication of repentance and heralding the coming King and the kingdom of God, there evidently stood on the shore, listening to John the Baptist and responding to his invitation, a young man named Judas. His name means *praised*. His surname was Iscariot, a man of south Judah. His father's name was Simon. Judas was baptized. He had to be because the Book of Acts makes this statement in the second chapter. Beginning from the baptism of John unto the same day that he was taken up from us, one must be ordained to be a witness with us of His resurrection. That was the credentials to be an apostle. Nothing is known of Judas Iscariot's early life. One day, Jesus Christ of Nazareth passed by, and Judas joined His disciples. Why? I do not know. His motives may have been pure at that time, or it might have been the excitement of the hour or curiosity. John heralded the coming of the King. Maybe he was politically motivated: "Well, if there is a new King coming, we, the Orthodox Jews, would like to get rid of the Romans. I will join any crowd that is here to overthrow the Romans." I do not know. He had business ability. One day after an all night prayer meeting that is recorded in Luke 9, Jesus chose His disciples, and He chose one of them, Judas Iscariot, as an apostle. He became the trusted treasurer. That proves people wrong who say Jesus went about and did miracles to feed Himself. Jesus never performed a miracle for Himself. It was always to demonstrate that He was God, and He did it for others. They had a treasurer, and even Jesus Christ was accountable. They were held accountable for the money coming in and for the trips. Judas followed Jesus Christ for three years. He saw all of Jesus' miracles. He saw His compassion. He saw the blind made to see. He saw the dead raised. He saw the lame made whole. He saw the tears on the cheeks of our Lord as He wept over the city and not only that but the tears as He stood at the grave of Lazarus. He heard His word. He witnessed the transformed lives that were changed by His power. He sold Him, though, for thirty pieces of silver, after three years of closest association. Thirty pieces of silver was the price of not just a slave but of a mangled slave. Exodus 21 talks about that. When a slave had been gourd by an ox, they killed the ox and repaid the master sixteen or seventeen dollars. The Savior of the world was sold for thirty pieces of silver. The Creator of the universe and the greatest Friend that

anybody could have been sold for thirty pieces of silver — thirty pieces of silver.

Let us consider some things this morning about Judas. Judas was unconverted. He was never saved. No where in the Bible does it teach that he got saved and then lost again. The Bible does not teach that about anybody. He never was converted. Let us study for our own edification and warning. Turn to John 6. Jesus knew all about Judas when He called him. When He saved you, He knew everything about you. He does not buy His sheep in the dark. When He called Judas, He knew exactly what Judas was. Nobody had to tell Him what he was. Jesus chose him deliberately. John 6:36: *But I said unto you, That ye also have seen me, and believe not.* Look at verse 64: *But there are some of you that believe not. For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were that believed not, and who should betray him.* When did He know? He knew from the beginning. There were a lot of folks who turned their backs on Jesus and went away when His word got too strong. John 6:67-71: *Then said Jesus unto the twelve, Will ye also go away? Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life. And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God. Jesus answered them, Have not I chosen you twelve, and one of you is a devil? He spake of Judas Iscariot the son of Simon: for he it was that should betray him, being one of the twelve.* Turn to John 12. He was a thief. Mary broke the alabaster box of ointment on our Lord. This disturbed Judas Iscariot. He called it a waste. He would have liked to have his hands in that, but he covered it up. “We are talking about the poor.” There are a lot of politicians that talk about the poor, but in their heart, they do not care for the poor. They care for votes. It is sad to see people used by politicians, not because they love people but because they love their position. John 12:4-6: *Then saith one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon’s son, which should betray him, Why was not this ointment sold for three hundred pence, and given to the poor? 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.* He was a treasurer, and he was a thief. He stole. He is called the son of perdition. That talks about his character. When the Bible talks about “son,” many times it is not talking about genealogy, but it is talking about character. For instance, He called James and John, “sons of thunder.” Now, that does not mean that thunder was their father. He was talking about their nature. They were high-tempered men, James and John. “Shall we call down fire from Heaven?” – sons of thunder. What was Judas? John 17:12: *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.* He was the son of perdition, destruction. That was his character. He had a character and nature of destruction, everlasting destruction. Now, he was a traitor. When you pick up a concordance to look up all the names of Judas Iscariot, every place its named nearby in that verse, or the verse preceding or following it, always says, *the traitor* or *he who betrayed*. The name is never given unless it declares that he was a traitor. Matthew 26:49: *And forthwith he came to Jesus, and said, Hail, master; and kissed him.* Now, a kiss is a sign of affection. He used the most tender of things to betray the Lord Jesus Christ. *To betray* means *to break a trust*. He bargained with the apostate priest for the life of the Lord Jesus. He was a traitor to his Lord when he kissed him. He was a traitor to the disciples. They trusted him. They never one time suspected him at all – never at one time. He was a traitor to his office of treasurer. He was a traitor to his name which means *praised*. Evidently, his parents were happy because names meant something when he was born. Maybe his parents had all girls, and now this little boy came along. Maybe they had hopes for a preacher or a prophet. They named him that sweet word, *praised*. He was a traitor to his name and to his heritage. He was a traitor to his apostleship. Turn to Acts 1. Do not read this verse as if he fell from grace. That is not what this verse says. He fell but not from grace, for he never was in grace. He fell from a position. In Acts 1:25, they are electing another apostle. Here, Peter is saying that he may take part. Acts 1:25: *That he may take part of this ministry and apostleship, from which Judas by transgression fell, (Where did he fall from? He fell from a ministry and apostleship, not from salvation. Salvation is not mentioned at all.) that he might go to*

his own place. He was not a hero. Several years ago, we had the movie and the album, "Jesus Christ Super Star." By the way, do not let the music world, the rock crowd, or Hollywood interpret the Bible to you, because they are not honest. Judas Iscariot was not a hero. "Jesus Christ Super Star" makes Jesus Christ a whimpering idiot, and the hero is Judas Iscariot, bravely going to die. That is not the Bible. He was not a hero. He was a traitor. He was not a victim of circumstances. Prophecy declared that there would be a traitor, but prophecy never made him a traitor. He was a traitor by birth. By the way, you have a nature of a traitor by birth. You are a sinner. Every last one of us came from the same stock, Adam. Adam was a betrayer. He betrayed his God. He betrayed his Creator in the beautiful garden. He betrayed Him. He was a traitor when Jesus called him. Jesus knew that. He was not a hero. He was unclean. Look at John 13. Let us have a Bible study before we meddle a little more. In John 13, we remember the washing of the disciples feet had a spiritual significance. He was a priest at the altar. The labor of washing their feet preceded their matter of serving. You had to be clean to serve. Peter said, "All right, then wash me all over." Jesus said, "No, Peter you do not need that. You got that when you got saved. From the head to the bottom of the soles, you got the all-over washing by the Spirit of God." 1 John 1:9: *Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;* The Spirit of God makes a man clean when He saves him. As Jesus washed the feet, Simon Peter said, "Well, if that is going to help, then wash me all over." Jesus said, "No, you do not need that. All you need is your feet washed." Your feet are representative of your walk. We have talked about them going out to the public baths, and when they came home, they had to have their feet washed. We are talking about a spiritual truth. We have dealt with that. He said: *ye are clean, but not all.* John 13:10, talking to Simon about the disciples: *Jesus saith to him, He that is washed needeth not save to wash his feet, but is clean every whit: and ye are clean, but not all. For he knew who should betray him;* This man was unclean. This man was still in the dirt of sin. Something else about him – he was a hypocrite. Turn to Matthew 26. The word *hypocrite* comes from the stage. It means *to wear a mask*, and whoever wears a mask plays a part. The religious leaders of that day played a part in a most scathing denunciation our Lord had. The religious leaders that day were wearing a mask, playing a part, but their heart was not in it. Their insides were rotten. Outside they looked good, but inside they were corrupt. They were hypocrites. They were wearing a mask presuming to be something that they really were not. They were phony. In Matthew 26, Judas had just bargained with the priests to sell the Lord Jesus Christ. Now look at Matthew 26:21. Watch this hypocrisy now: *And as they did eat, he said, Verily I say unto you, that one of you shall betray me. . . . one of you . . .* – they were exceeding sorrowful. Again, everyone of them said unto him, "Lord, is it I?" I mean, they were shaken. They distrusted themselves more than they did Judas Iscariot. "Lord, is it me? Oh, I am wicked. I know my capabilities, but I never thought that. Lord, is it me?" That is honesty. That is integrity. In verse 23, he answered, and we will deal with this in John a little later on. Starting with verse 22-25: *And they were exceeding sorrowful, and began every one of them to say unto him, Lord, is it I? And he answered and said, He that dippeth his hand with me in the dish, the same shall betray me. 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. Then Judas, which betrayed him, answered and said, Master, is it I? Wait a minute. Read the verses ahead. He had just got through coming from the bargaining table and probably had the money in his pocket. The rest of them said that, so he joined in, *Lord, is it I?* He was not asking a question for information. He knew what he was. He was a hypocrite. He was living a lie. He was playing a part.*

Judas was privileged. If you were to ask a lot of people who think they have all these privileges if they were saved, they would tell you some of these things. I want to tell you that privileges will not get you saved. Position will not get you saved. Leadership will not get you saved. You get saved by repenting of your sins, turning to Christ from your sins, and trusting Him to deliver you from sins. That is how you get saved. Judas was privileged. He was one of the twelve. I referred

to Luke 6 awhile ago where our Lord prayed all night long. Luke 6:13: *And when it was day, he called unto him his disciples . . .* In Luke 6:16, Jesus calls his name: *And Judas the brother of James, and Judas Iscariot, which also was the traitor.* Out of the whole world, Jesus chose twelve, and he was one of twelve. I want to tell you that is some privilege that God the Son chose him. That was a privilege.

He had miraculous powers. Turn to Matthew 10. You watch some things, and you say that has to be of God. Did you know the devil can perform miracles? Did you know that Moses performed miracles, and up to a certain point, the witchcraft of Egypt performed miracles right behind Moses? There came a place where they stopped. Moses threw down his rod, and it became a serpent. They threw down their rods, and they became serpents. But, Moses' rod swallowed theirs up. You see some miracles, and people want to see something. Put up signs, wonders, and miracles, and people will come. They do not come to get saved; they come out of curiosity. We want to see something. If you are looking for crowds, give them something to satisfy their curiosity. "Come. We are going to tell you about your sin. If you die, you will go to hell, but we are going to try to tell you how not to go to hell." Crowds do not come for that cause. They are not interested in that. Jesus gave His disciples power. Why? They were His representatives, and He was the Messiah on earth. His power was representative. Look at Matthew 10:1: *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.* Judas Iscariot had miraculous power. Turn to Matthew 7. There will be folks who stand before God and plead their miraculous powers. God will say, "I never knew you." Matthew 7:22: *Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? And in thy name have cast out devils? And in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: (not "I knew you and forgot you," but I never knew you) depart from me, ye that work iniquity.* Judas Iscariot had power. He had two offices. He had an office of an apostle, and he was the treasurer of the apostle, the trusted one. He was a man of reputation. He personally witnessed all the miracles. He spent three years with the Savior. Jesus washed his feet along with the other eleven disciples; although the washing of his feet did not do him any good. He ate the Passover and sat at the Lord's table. All of these were privileges that this man had. That was some privilege!

Judas was warned. It is interesting that when you see Akin, the sin in Israel, Joshua called Akin out. You hear Paul say, "Alexander the coppersmith has done me much evil," and you see them exposed. Jesus never exposed this hypocrite, this false one, in their midst; He rang his bell. He warned him and warned him and warned him and never embarrassed him, except maybe that one time when Mary broke the alabaster box, and he was griping, and Jesus said, "Leave her alone." Look at the warnings he gave to him. John 6:70 we have already read. When Simon Peter said in verse 69: *And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God.* Verse 70: *Jesus answered them, Have not I chosen you twelve, and one of you is a devil?* In John 12:7, it may be that the malice of hell culminated that day when Judas saw Mary break an alabaster box of ointment and poured it on the head and feet of Jesus. In his covetous heart, he longed to have that money that was in the bag. He longed to have it, and the venom of hell rose up in his heart. Jesus said, "Let her alone." He read his motive. I already mentioned John 13:10-11 to you. He said: *Ye are not all clean.* Judas Iscariot is here listening to everyone of these warnings from the Lord. Jesus said, "One of you is unclean." Then he quotes a verse of Scripture in John 13:18, referring to Psalm 41: *He that eateth bread with me hath lifted up his heel against me.* Judas is listening. Verse 21: *When Jesus had thus said, he was troubled in spirit, and testified, and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, that one of you shall betray me.* Now what was he doing? He was warning Judas Iscariot. God warns; God disturbs; God deals with. He heard the Savior warning in Matthew 23 — the whole chapter deals with hypocrisy. Judas Iscariot hears that scolding denunciation, but even though he is warned, he does not do anything about it. In John 13, Jesus was troubled in spirit. Now, if you think Jesus Christ was a zombie, you are badly mistaken. Oh, He was the Son of God. Nothing bothered him. Jesus Christ was perfect man and perfect God.

When you see Him, perfect humanity, you see Him weak; you see Him rest because He is tired; you see Him eat because He is hungry; and you see Him sleep because He needs rest. In John 12:27, He is thinking about Gethsemane: *Now is my soul troubled . . .* They saw Him publicly display His emotions, and His soul was in turmoil as He anticipated the awfulness of being identified with sin and Gethsemane's garden. As He thinks of the betrayer, He said: *Now is my soul troubled . . .* How would you like to have someone with you for three years, and he is a traitor, and you know it? You try to get away from the crowds, and the traitor is there. When you kneel to pray, the traitor is there. When you perform miracles, the traitor is there. When you speak, the traitor is there. There was no place in the world in three years to get away from that traitor. But now, it is not selfish. Just what was He troubled about? He was troubled about listening to the awfulness of sin. That was what troubled our Lord when He said: *Now is my soul troubled . . .*, thinking about Gethsemane. You and I talk about sin. We talk about all this in our country and its laughing about sin. If we understood the awfulness of sin today, you and I would be on our faces and under the pews begging God for mercy. We do not see the terribleness of sin. This generation does not see the terribleness of sin because of our cop-out adult generation. We need to show them. Back in the 40's when I was in the United States Air Corp, they showed us what sexual sins resulted in. Safe sex! Yes, they showed us venereal disease in its last stages. They showed us pictures where the thighs are rotted off of men. They showed us the most degrading pictures. We were afraid of this thing called sex outside of marriage. You were shown the last picture. Show the drunk in his last stages of detoxification. Show the prostitute as she sells her body. Show them and show them. The last result we do not see, the part that is not glamorous. If the holy God turned His holy light on everyone of us without exception and showed us the awfulness of our sins, we would hold on to the bench and ask God not to send us to hell. Jonathan Edwards preached, "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God." He fasted and prayed and read his text. He read the sermon. They were holding onto the pews. "Oh, God, have mercy." They were holding onto the benches and were holding onto anything stable. We are adults. We are idiots. Adults will lie to a younger generation. I call adults to task for the destruction of the American youth. You get a glimpse of sin. Listen, God's Son came to this earth and got a glimpse of it in the garden. He was not afraid of Calvary or what man could do to Him. God the Son was on His knees, and He falls on His face. We have a glimpse of Him thinking about tomorrow and the sins. He sweat great drops of blood just thinking about it. *Fools make a mock at sin . . .* Preachers today keep their mouths shut. You ought to get out of the ministry if you cannot preach against sin. You are a traitor to the cause of Christ. Get out. Doctors are no good without disease. A doctor cannot help you until you need it. Disease. Dr. Jesus cannot help you until you quit calling your sin by pretty names and call it sin. He is our Savior. Our Savior was troubled about mankind and what they were doing to themselves and where they were going in the dastardliness of their heart. You will not find one unkind word to the Lord Jesus right up to the moment Judas kissed Him. The last thing Jesus said to Judas Iscariot was, "Comrade." How it broke His heart! Then, when He sat at the table and gave Judas the sop, the sop was that special portion that the host reserved and gave to the guest, the place of honor. He dipped the sop and handed it to the lowest creature the world has ever known. It ought to have broken his heart, but it did not break his heart. He took it as though he deserved it. He was warned; it did not stop him. Let us go a little further. Judas was a thief. By the way, the heathen world felt like treachery was the worst of vices. The world is as poor as that day when Brutus killed Caesar. This was a most unkind cut of all for when the noble Caesar saw himself stabbed, in gratitude more strong than traitor's arms quite vanquished him, then burst his mighty heart; and in his mantle, muffling up his face, even at the base of Pompeii's statue, great Caesar fell. That is the terrible, despicable sin of the heathen.

Judas was a thief. He had the bag. He had been stealing for a long time. He bought a field. Some people would think that he literally bought himself; and with the money that he brought back, the priest bought another field. The love of money — He coveted. 1 Timothy 6:10: *For the love of money is the root of all evil . . .* Matthew 6:24: *No man can serve two masters: for either he will*

hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon. Money is a wonderful servant but a terrible master. You are either using money as a servant, or you are serving money. What a horrible thing. The love of money — I do not know, maybe he grew up in poverty. Maybe he was so tired of poverty. Maybe in John 6, he had been thinking about the kingdom and him having a place in the kingdom with a King and a King's treasure. When Jesus refused to let them make him a king, then maybe in his heart, bitterness toward the Lord Jesus literally broke with Mary and the alabaster box of ointment. Money had a hold of his heart. It gripped him and gripped him and gripped him and progressively got a hold of him. He had business ability. The Bible says about this matter of the progression of sin that satan put it into his heart to betray Jesus. He put in an idea. What are you going to do with that idea? You play with sin, and it gets stronger and stronger. After awhile, you become a slave. What do you do with that idea of lying, that idea of stealing, that idea of cheating, that idea of infidelity, that idea of perversion, or the suggestion in your heart? Do you listen to it? He listened to it, and you read further again in the Scriptures about satan. He first put it into his heart. So for the devil having put it in the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray Jesus, Judas did not reject that idea. Now listen, after the sop, satan entered into Judas. Once sin gets a hold and you play with it, it gets tighter and tighter and tighter; and satan tempts and tempts. After awhile, satan moves in, and he did.

Let us consider Judas and prophesy. Look at Matthew 26:24. This verse teaches the sovereignty of God, the prophesy, and the freedom of man: *The Son of man goeth as it is written of him:* (Scripture prophesied of the traitor. Jesus, out of love for the Word of God, put one step ahead of the other because He loved the will of God. He chose a traitor. Why? Because the will of God was the fact that a traitor was going to be one of the twelve. He chose everything according to the will of God. He loved the will of God.) *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.* Judas Iscariot sinned because he wanted to. Judas Iscariot betrayed the Lord because he wanted to. Judas Iscariot sold Jesus for thirty pieces of silver because he wanted to, not because prophesy said it was going to happen. Prophesy is God's foreknowledge. God did not make you a zombie or a robot. You are an individual, and you can choose. You can say, "No," to God. Mark 14:21: . . . *good were it for that man if he had never been born.* He was despicable. He was not a hero. The prophesy spoke of the betrayer and his price. Turn to Psalm 55. In this passage, we see David's experience, but we also see a prophesy of the Lord Jesus Christ the Son of David's spiritual experience and fulfillment. It has principle. Psalm 55:12-14: *For it was not an enemy that reproached me; then I could have borne it: (Notice our Lord's feelings.) neither was it he that hated me that did magnify himself against me: then I would have hid myself from him: But it was thou, a man mine equal, my guide, and mine acquaintance. We took sweet counsel together, and walked unto the house of God in Company. Verses 20- 21: He hath put forth his hands against such as be at peace with him: he hath broken his covenant. The words of his mouth were smoother than butter, but war was in his heart: his words were softer than oil, yet were they drawn swords.* It was His prophesy and Judas' choosing. Why did Jesus choose him? Prophesy said that there would be a traitor. It furnished an opportunity for Christ to display his perfections. With all of His perfections, Jesus chose the devil to be with Him for three years, and the devil watched Him. His perfections, His tenderness, His patience, His love, His compassion, His truthfulness, His honesty, and His integrity — He wore no mask. Judas saw that for three years. When Jesus retired to get away from the critics, Judas was still there. There was no getting away from him. The Bible says that a man's foes shall be they of his own household. Did you know there are some folks who are married to seemingly devils? — not literally. They blaspheme God. They curse God. Jesus says, "I understand. I walked three years with one. Every step I took and every place I went, I never got away from him. Now look, I stood, and you can too. I will give you grace to stand." He shows the perfections of our Lord.

He chose him because it furnished an impartial witness to the moral excellency of Christ. What these Hollywood guys are doing to dishonor Jesus Christ and who are dishonest and allow Jesus

Christ to be degraded — I will not even repeat what they are doing — is wicked and vile. Ask Judas Iscariot what kind of character Jesus Christ was. Ask him. When it was all said and done, Judas rushed into the temple and said to the priest: . . . *I have betrayed the innocent blood.* If Judas did not even know he was innocent, nobody would know. He was a man on the inside. God bore witness; John bore witness; and the Word bore witness of one on the inside, close to Jesus' heart, who said He was innocent.

It furnished an occasion to uncover sin and all its vileness. This is sin at its deepest. Let me read these sentences: "How could the heinousness of sin be more fittingly exposed at the time and by allowing a man to accompany with the Savior to be inside the circle of the greatest earthly privileges and to be himself convinced of the innocency of that one who was to be the sacrificial victim, yet not withstanding for him to basely betray that One and sell Him into the hands of His enemies? Never was the vileness of sin more throughly uncovered." Thirty pieces of silver was about sixteen or seventeen dollars. Who was he selling? The Lord of Glory. He was selling the One Who spun the Milky Way into existence. He was selling the One the angels ascend and worship at the throne of God for sixteen or seventeen dollars. Why did Jesus choose Judas? To tell us that we may expect to find hypocrites and devils among servants of God. Do not get shocked. Read 2 Peter where it warns about false teachers and about their motivations. They are after money. They use people as pawns. Not only that but they also promise liberty. "All of these old laws, the ten commandments, you do not need to follow; you can follow me. God does not mind you doing that." No. What are they doing? They are false teachers. They are devils. They are destroyers. You get shocked, "Well, I quit going to church because I found out the preacher was a hypocrite." Yes, there was one among the twelve, and there were still some more, but all of them were not bad. There were eleven left. Now, they might have been cowards that night, but you wait until that night was over. They were filled with the Spirit of God, and they all laid their lives down for the Lord. I asked you a question. Oh, you say there are hypocrites in the church. Sir, do you need eggs? Lady, do you need eggs? "Oh, yes, I need eggs." Have you ever found a rotten one? If you have ever lived on a farm, you know what a rotten egg is. Yes, what did you do with it? "Well, I swore off eggs forever." No, you did not. You threw it in the garbage and held your nose when you put the lid on the trash can. Then, you went and bought another dozen eggs. Hey, if you give eggs that much respect then God's people should give that much respect. If you find a rotten one, let him alone and go on. Liberals hate Christ. They hate His sinless cross and His resurrection. Turn to John 13:19. This old man said, "Well, I got converted, and later it turned out that the preacher was a devil. That preacher ran off with somebody's wife. That preacher lied and cheated and stole, and I got saved under his ministry." Oh, trouble, trouble, trouble — you do not need to be troubled. Look at what Jesus said in John 13:19. He is talking to His own: *Now I tell you before it come, that, when it is come to pass, ye may believe that I am he.* He said, "I want this night to strengthen you, not to upset you. Now, I have told you that there is a traitor in the midst, and he is going to come to the service. I do not want you to get disturbed about it. It will just make you believe more and more that I am He. I knew all about it and I told you." Read the next verse: *Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that receiveth whomsoever I send receiveth me; and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me.* Just who did you receive? That preacher preached. That preacher had the Word of God. That preacher told you the Word of God. He told you how to get saved. God sent His Son into the world. If a devil preaches the gospel and gives the Word of God out, God will bless the gospel not the devil. If you put your feet on the promises of God and you receive Jesus Christ as personal Savior, you ought to be able to lift up your hand and say, "My hope is built on nothing less Than Jesus' blood and righteousness; I dare not trust the sweetest frame, But wholly lean on Jesus' name." I am not trusting the preacher. I am trusting Jesus. I did not receive the preacher. I received Jesus Christ. The preacher told me. "Man, I have got some good news from bad people." You put your money in the bank, and some crook may not run off with yours. Some crook may be sitting there, a bank teller, and you get your money. A crook handles your money. You do not worry about the crook just as long as you get your money. What is

between here and there is not the thing. Listen to the end of the thing. Jesus said, "I do not want you to be disturbed. Tonight is going to come to a head, and I want you to understand more. "I am still in charge. I am still the Messiah. Do not be troubled now."