

Settin' In The Garage

Text : **John 13: 12-30**

INTRODUCTION :

A. The scriptures admonish Christians to constantly be evaluating their progress.

1. **II Cor. 13: 5** – Test yourselves to see if you are in the faith; examine yourselves! ...
2. **Gal. 6: 4** – But each one must examine his own work, and then he will have reason for boasting in regard to himself alone, and not in regard to another.
3. It is the tendency of man to believe that we know what is best and that we do good.
 - a. **Prov. 21: 2** – Every man's way is right in his own eyes,
But the Lord weighs the hearts.
 - b. **Rom. 12: 3** – For through the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so ...

B. Self-examination serves a valuable spiritual purpose; it guards against deception.

1. We are warned that Christians will be lead astray by “deceitful spirits.” **I Tim. 4: 1**
2. Sadly, we also deceive ourselves. **James 1:22**
3. We are commanded to minister to each other on a DAILY basis to prevent deception.
Heb. 3: 13 – But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is still called “Today,” so that none of you will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.
- *4. Jesus gave one of the most frightening examples of deception in the scriptures.
Matt. 7: 21-23 Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of Heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in Heaven will enter. **22** Many will say to Me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?’ **23** And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness.’

C. We may fool ourselves, but we never fool God or Satan either one.

1. Satan is constantly probing for spiritual weaknesses.
2. When he finds a soft spot, he concentrates his attacks on the vulnerability.

With this lesson we will seek to learn lesson from one who was totally deceived – Judas. We'll seek to learn the **who**, **what**, **when** and the **why** behind his failure so we can avoid making the same mistakes he made.

I. WHO was Judas ?

A. The scriptures aren't very forthcoming about anything other than his treachery.

1. He was an Apostle.
2. He was listed last because the lists were all written after he betrayed our Lord.
3. He spent three years being tutored by the greatest teacher ever known to man.

B. His name gives us some hint into his background.

1. Society places great significance on names.
 - a. A New Jersey couple named their son "*Adolf Hitler*" and their daughter "*Arian Nation*" so the state took their third child before they could name it.
 - b. Have you ever heard of a child being named Judas ? A dog named Judas ?
2. **Judas** was a popular name among devout Jews. (*Patriarch of the tribe.*)
 - a. One of the brothers of Jesus was named "Judas."
 - b. In fact, there were six people in the N.T. named Judas.
3. The name "Judas" means "Jehovah leads."
 - a. Normal parents struggle to pick just the right (meaningful) name for their child.
 - b. Choosing this religious name was an indication of his parent's devotion.
4. Iscariot was a compound name with direct meaning.
 - a. "ish" meaning of and qeriyoth referring to Kerioth
 - b. Thus, his name was Judas, man of Kerioth.

Note : "**Kerioth**" was a small village in southern Judah. (Josh 15:21- 25)
 (Kerioth had formerly been part of Moab. Jer. 48: 24, 41 ; Amos 2: 2)

5. This meant that Judas was the only one of the Apostles who was not from Galilee.
 - a. Compare ... **Acts 1: 11**
 - b. Galilee was in the far north.
 - c. They talked differently in the north. (**Matt. 26: 73**)

C. Judas proves one can come from a devout Southern family & be still reprobate.

1. Turning to Christ is an intensely personal decision. (*Can't inherit faith*)
2. *Just because kittens are born in a breadbasket doesn't mean they'll be biscuits.*
One can spend his whole life in a garage and never become a car.
3. Faith is a condition of heart. Each person must develop his faith individually.

II. WHAT was Judas ?

A. Though now a symbol of evil, Judas had been an Apostle of the Lord.

1. **Matt. 10: 1-4** Jesus summoned His twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every kind of disease and every kind of sickness. **2** Now the names of the twelve apostles are these: The first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; and James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; **3** Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; **4** Simon the Zealot, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed Him.

2. From this text we see that Judas :

- a. Was called to be an Apostle
- b. Responded to the call
- c. Was appointed
- d. Was given power
- e. Was commissioned to preach
- f. Served with the other Apostles

B. Though he was in every respect equal with the other Apostles, he is always listed last and always identified as the betrayer.

1. Matt 10, Mark 3: 16-19, Luke 6: 14-16 (*on a list, first and last had significance*)
2. These lists were all written after the death of Judas.

C. Jesus referred to Judas as a “devil.”

1. **John 6: 70-71** Jesus answered them, “Did I Myself not choose you, the twelve, and yet one of you is a devil?” **71** Now He meant Judas the son of Simon Iscariot, for he, one of the twelve, was going to betray Him.

2. Judas was there in the presence of righteousness, but controlled by the devil.

3. This can happen to anyone.

- Heb. 3: 12-13** Take care, brethren, that there not be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart that falls away from the living God. **13** But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is still called “Today,” so that none of you will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

4. There are only two fathers and everyone is a child of one or the other. (*for / against*)

- a. There are no orphans and there's no middle ground. *Everyone is one or the other*
- b. ALL lost people are children of the devil. **John 8: 38-44** (*gather / scatter*)

III. WHEN was Judas lost. (*That's hard to pinpoint*)

A. Judas is a classic study in hypocrisy. (*It's hard to know the truth about him.*)

1. Like a chameleon he blended right in with the other Apostles.
2. He was not suspected of evil because he :
 - a. sat under the same teacher (*good student .. made an Apostle*)
 - b. was their constant companion
 - c. was their coworker ... went with them and taught what they taught.

B. Judas won the trust of the others.

1. They let him be their treasurer.
 - a. Being treasurer is a position of particular trust.
 - b. The treasurer only official position held among the Apostles.
2. When Jesus said, “**One of you will betray Me.**” no one pointed at Judas.

C. Judas had been planning to betray Jesus for some time before he did.

1. **John 12: 1-6** Jesus, therefore, six days before the Passover, came to Bethany where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. **2** So they made Him a supper there, and Martha was serving; but Lazarus was one of those reclining at the table with Him. **3** Mary then took a pound of very costly perfume of pure nard, and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped His feet with her hair; and the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. **4** But Judas Iscariot, one of His disciples, who was intending to betray Him, said, **5** “Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and given to poor people?” **6** Now he said this, not because he was concerned about the poor, but because he was a thief, and as he had the money box, he used to pilfer what was put into it.
2. If he betrayed him with more money in the bag, there was more for him to take.
 - a. Evidently Judas had become disillusioned along the way. (*Who knows when ?*)
 - b. He had expected Jesus to rule and now he was talking about His capture.
 - c. He allowed Satan into his heart while preparing for the last supper. **Luke 22: 3**

D. From the very beginning there has been a dropout rate among followers.

1. **Luke 8** ... In the parable of the sower, one did not accept and two started but died.
2. **John 6: 26f** ... Many left Jesus. (vs 66) Perhaps Judas forsook, but didn't leave.
3. For this reason preachers are warned not to appoint elders quickly. **I Tim. 5: 22**
4. Those who make an emotional response seldom stay after the emotion cools.

IV. WHY did Judas betray Jesus ?

A. Judas did not betray Jesus out of distain for Him.

1. **Matt. 27: 3-5** Then when Judas, who had betrayed Him, saw that He had been condemned, he felt remorse and returned the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, ⁴ saying, "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood." But they said, "What is that to us? See to that yourself!" ⁵ And he threw the pieces of silver into the temple sanctuary and departed; and he went away and hanged himself.
2. Obviously, Judas did not expect or desire the result that he got from the betrayal.
3. Some scholars speculate that Judas thought he was forcing Jesus to establish His kingdom and drive out the Romans.
 - a. The Apostles believed that the kingdom would be a civil kingdom on the earth.
 - b. The millennialists still have this misconception.
 - c. Being the treasurer of an earthly kingdom would have made Judas rich.

B. Judas had not progressed in his spirituality or sanctification.

1. He was in the garage, but not a car; in the hen house, but not laying eggs.
2. **I Cor. 3: 1-3** And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual men, but as to men of flesh, as to infants in Christ. ² I gave you milk to drink, not solid food; for you were not yet able *to receive it*. Indeed, even now you are not yet able, ³ for you are still fleshly. For since there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not fleshly, and are you not walking like mere men?
- a. Christians are expected to learn to think in spiritual terms ... not just earthly.
- b. Few people ever get comfortable with "*higher mathematics*." It's a different thought process that seems foolish to most folks.
- c. Likewise, the spiritual thought process is foolish to those with earthbound thinking.

I Cor. 1: 18 – For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

C. All those who come into the kingdom with their own agenda end up like Judas.

1. Men have destroyed churches over financial issues. (*Try to run church like business*)
 - a. Many congregations have been destroyed by building programs.

** Man got to be an elder because he wanted a new building. It's now foreclosed.*
 - b. Other's relate all activities of the church to cost ... "*Wise use of God's money.*"
2. It is very sad to see people come into the kingdom just for what they can get.

CONCLUSION :**A. Judas was stereotypical of the unconverted man in the church ... even today.**

1. He was caught up in the movement, but not caught up in love for God.
2. He participated with Jesus, but never fell in love with Him.
 - a. He had no personal relationship with Jesus. (*Never shared HIS goal*)
 - b. His active service was motivated by a desire to receive.
3. Many today are active in the church, but feel no relationship with Jesus.
 - a. They enjoy the love and fellowship of the church. (*Even preachers*)
 - b. They believe the doctrines of the church.
 - c. They want to go to Heaven rather than Hell.
 - d. They believe in Jesus, but have no relationship with Him.
 - e. They serve God because they have been commanded to do so, not because they love Him and want Him to be honored and to be pleased with them.

B. That kind of loving relationship does not grow without cultivation.

1. Just as setting in the garage won't make us a car ...
setting in church won't make us a Christian.
2. Judas did and said all the right things, **but** he never developed a heart for God.
3. He had spiritual peers, but he didn't talk with them about his doubts & temptations.
 - a. **James 5: 16** – **Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another so that you may be healed.** The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much.
 - b. Confession and prayer are directly responsible for spiritual healing. (*Lifestyle*)

**C. Interaction isn't just an assembly thing;
we're commanded to encourage each other daily**

1. **REMEMBER :**
Heb. 3: 12-13 Take care, brethren, that there not be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart that falls away from the living God. **13** But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is still called "Today," so that none of you will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.
2. Judas was in the presence of Christ but did not establish a relationship with Him.

**D. Only you and God can examine your heart ...
is it focused on God or on His creation ? **LEARN FROM JUDAS !!!****

Lesson Text :**John 13: 12-30**

12 So when He had washed their feet, and taken His garments and reclined *at the table* again, He said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? **13** You call Me Teacher and Lord; and you are right, for so I am. **14** If I then, the Lord and the Teacher, washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. **15** For I gave you an example that you also should do as I did to you. **16** Truly, truly, I say to you, a slave is not greater than his master, nor *is* one who is sent greater than the one who sent him. **17** If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them. **18** I do not speak of all of you. I know the ones I have chosen; but *it is* that the Scripture may be fulfilled, 'HE WHO EATS MY BREAD HAS LIFTED UP HIS HEEL AGAINST ME.' **19** From now on I am telling you before *it* comes to pass, so that when it does occur, you may believe that I am *He*. **20** Truly, truly, 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 this, He became troubled in spirit, and testified and said, "Truly, truly, I say to you, that one of you will betray Me." **22** The disciples *began* looking at one another, at a loss *to know* of which one He was speaking. **23** *There was reclining on Jesus' bosom one of His disciples, whom Jesus loved.* **24** So Simon Peter gestured to him, and said to him, "Tell *us* who it is of whom He is speaking." **25** He, leaning back thus on Jesus' bosom, said to Him, "Lord, who is it?" **26** Jesus then answered, "That is the one for whom I shall dip the morsel and give it to him." So when He had dipped the morsel, He took and gave it to Judas, *the son* of Simon Iscariot. **27** After the morsel, Satan then entered into him. Therefore Jesus said to him, "What you do, do quickly." **28** Now no one of those reclining *at the table* knew for what purpose He had said this to him. **29** For some were supposing, because Judas had the money box, that Jesus was saying to him, "Buy the things we have need of for the feast"; or else, that he should give something to the poor. **30** So after receiving the morsel he went out immediately; and it was night.