**JUDAS—DYING WITHOUT CHRIST**

Matthew 27:3-5

Dr. Glenn A. Jent, Pastor

**INTRODUCTION**

The story of Judas is a tragedy. He followed Jesus and was the treasurer. Although he was chosen by Jesus, he was a devil from the beginning (John 6:70). His nickname, Iscariot, may reflect that he was originally a member of the Sicarii, a band of assassins who carried knives and advocated violent revolution. The Sicarii sought to kill Roman officials and soldiers. Thus, he likely followed Jesus because he hoped Jesus, with His marvelous power, would overthrow the Romans. All of the disciples kept asking Jesus when he was going to restore the Kingdom. Let us see what we can learn.

1. **JUDAS FOLLOWED JESUS FOR THE WRONG REASON.**
2. He should have followed Jesus for **spiritual** reasons.
3. Jesus’ message was a spiritual message of peace and hope.
4. Jesus’ message was a spiritual message of deliverance from sin.
5. He followed Jesus for ulterior **motives**.
6. He hoped to be a part of overthrowing the Romans.
7. He hoped to be a leader in the restored Kingdom.
8. **JUDAS TRIED TO MANIPULATE JESUS.**
9. He tried to get Jesus to do **what** he wanted Him to do.
10. He betrayed Jesus hoping He would reveal His great power.
11. He betrayed Jesus hoping He would then overthrow the Romans.
12. He tried to get Jesus to act **when** he wanted Him to do it.
13. He betrayed Jesus hoping He would be forced to act immediately.
14. He betrayed Jesus hoping He would be forced to restore the Kingdom at once.
15. **JUDAS NEVER UNDERSTOOD THE SPIRITUAL MISSION OF JESUS.**
16. He **realized** his mistake when Jesus was sentenced to be crucified.
17. His hopes were not met.
18. His expectations were the opposite of what happened.
19. He remorsefully **returned** to the chief priests and elders.
20. He returned the 30 pieces of silver.
21. He confessed he had sinned by betraying the innocent Jesus.
22. **JUDAS HANGED HIMSELF IN HIS REMORSE.**
23. He **lived** with a false view of Jesus.
24. He thought everyone thought the way he did—revolution now.
25. He thought Jesus was a revolutionary soldier—not a prophet.
26. He **died** without Jesus in his life.
27. He never allowed Jesus to be His Savior.
28. He never made Jesus his Lord.

**CONCLUSION**

A person may be like Judas and follow along after Christ, yet never truly become a believer. What a tragedy that a person could be so close to the Way-Truth-Life, yet so far from trusting in Jesus as Savior and Lord. Improper motivation, desire to manipulate, and lack of understanding of Who Jesus is can lead to dying without Him in your life. Do you truly know Jesus Christ today?

*“Without Him I could do nothing. Without Him I’d surely fail.*

*Without Him I would be dying Like a ship without a sail.*

*Jesus, O Jesus! Do you know Him today? Do not turn Him away!*

*O Jesus, O Jesus! Without Him, how lost I would be.”*