

# Scenes of Discipleship:

## "Is it I, Lord?"

Western Christadelphian  
Bible School  
Day #4





**Judas & Peter**

“...some of you who do not believe.’ (For Jesus knew from the beginning who those were who did not believe, and who it was who would betray him...)”

“‘Did I not choose you, the Twelve? And yet one of you is a devil.’ He spoke of Judas the son of Simon Iscariot, for he, one of the Twelve, was going to betray him”

“This was the turning point for Judas too. He had seen enough to know that Jesus did not fit the Messianic mold he wanted or expected. So why didn't he leave? What did he expect to accomplish by staying? Was he afraid of the ridicule? Or was there some other motive now coming to birth in the hidden recesses of his mind? Was this also the time when his thoughts began to turn towards the bag in his possession?” (Bro. Ted Sleeper)

# Son of Perdition: the Last Straw

- (Jn. 17:12 ESV) "While I was with them, I kept them in your name, which you have given me. I have guarded them, and not one of them has been lost except the son of destruction [*apoleia*], that the Scripture might be fulfilled."



# It is Difficult to be Objective About Judas

Judas is described as the “betraye” so often  
(e.g., Matt 26:25; 26:48; 27:3; Mk. 3:19;4:14; Jn.  
12:4; 18:2, 5)

traitor: *especially*: one who betrays under the  
guise of friendship

And as they were eating, he said, "Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray [*paradidomi*] me." (Matt. 26:21 ESV)

And as they were reclining at table and eating, Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray [*paradidomi*] me, one who is eating with me." (Mk. 14:18 ESV)

"But behold, the hand of him who betrays [*paradidomi*] me is with me on the table." (Lk. 22:21 ESV)

After saying these things, Jesus was troubled in his spirit, and testified, "Truly, truly, I say to you, one of you will betray [*paradidomi*] me." (Jn. 13:21 ESV)

## The Two Meanings of *Paradidomi*

"For I received from the Lord what I also delivered [*paradidomi*] to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed [*paradidomi*] took bread..." (1 Cor. 11:23 ESV)

"He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up [*paradidomi*] for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?" (Rom. 8:32 ESV)

"who was delivered up [*paradidomi*] for our trespasses" (Rom. 4:25 ESV)

Break down of spiritual relationship (God/Humankind  
Acts 7:43/Rom. 1:24-28; disfellowship 1 Tim. 1:20)

“Deny” *aparneomai*

“to disown, deny, repudiate”

Used almost exclusive to describe either Peter’s denials or Jesus’ command to deny yourself, pick up the cross and follow him

Blessing for the bread prompts Jesus to quote Psa. 41:9 (Jn)

Jesus tells the disciples that one of them will betray him (Matt., Mk., Lk., Jn.)

Disciples are saddened, look at each other (Jn), and all ask Jesus (Matt., Mk., Lk., Jn.)

Jesus responds: the one dipping bread with me (Mk.)

Jesus responds to Judas: "You said it." (Matt.)

Peter gets John to ask Jesus; Jesus responds, "It is the one I give the sop to." (Jn.)

Because the disciples don't get a clear answer from Jesus, they continue the dialogue, renewing their on-going "who is the greatest" argument (Lk.)

Betrayal is mentioned again with the Cup of Blessing and the disciples begin to question/accuse each other (Lk.).

Jesus ends the argument by reminding them of his example and by pointing them towards the kingdom (Luke)

# Betrayal: a Theme in the Lord's Supper



# Is it I, Lord?

Each disciple sorrowfully asks Jesus

They questioned each other about the identity of the betrayer

Peter asked John to ask Jesus who the betrayer was

"Is it I, Lord?"

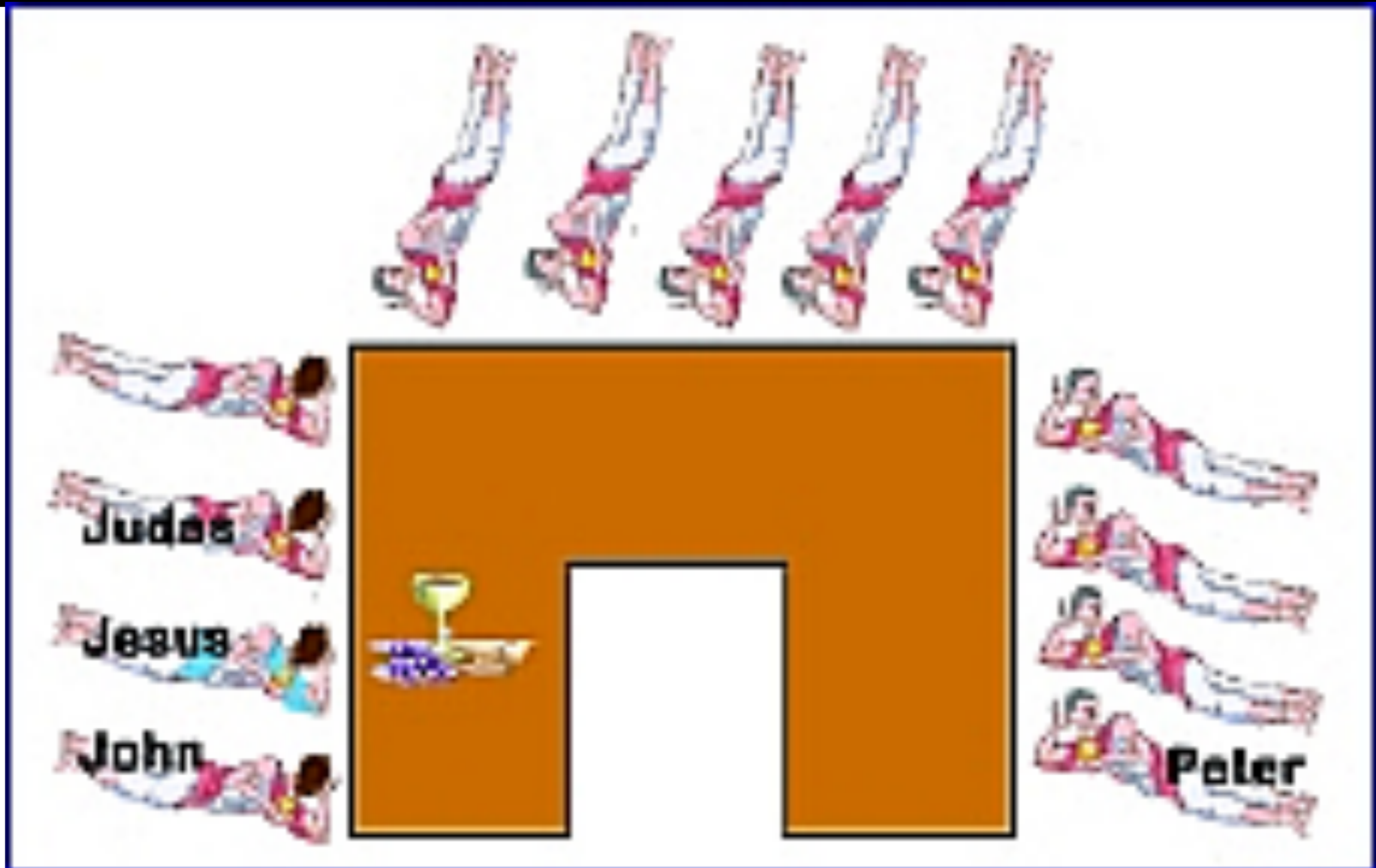
Is it I, Rabbi?"

# The Sop

- Gr. word only used here (Jn. 13) in N.T. but close derivative is used in Ruth 2:14 LXX by the kinsman-redeemer
- "THE Sop" = Hillel's sandwich
- The host gave the sop to everyone



# How Did Judas Get the Best Spot?



# What Do We Know About Judas? *Isca*riot

## *Isca*riotes

1. Location: "...inhabitant of Kerioth..." (Strong) OR "...man from the city..." [Aramaic *qiryeta'*]
2. Political affiliation: *sicarii*
3. Nickname: *Iskarioutha*, "chokiness" or "constriction."

# What Do We Know About Judas? *Ahithophel*

The king's counsellor (1 Chron. 27:33)

Kept the money bag (Jn. 12:6)

Very wise and politically astute "as if one consulted the word of God" (2 Sam. 16:23)

Influenced the 12 (e.g., anointing at Bethany)

Family made it personal (Bathsheba = granddaughter)

Family was the last straw ( Matt. 26:13-14; Mk. 14:9-19)

"You seek the life of only one man, and all the people will be at peace."

"...it is better for you that one man should die for the people, not that the whole nation should perish"

# OT Clues to the Relationship Between Jesus and Judas

- Psalm 41:9 (Jn. 13:18)
- Psalm 55:12-23
- Psalm 69:22-28 (Acts 1:20)
- Psalm 109:6-15 (Acts 1:20)
- Zechariah 11:7-14

# Psalms 41

- "...mine own familiar friend..." *shalom ish*
- "...in whom I trusted..." *barakty*
- "...which did eat of my bread..." *okel lechem*
- "...lifted up his heel against me..." *gadal al 'aqeb*

# Some Jewish Perspectives on Psalm 55

"For it was not an oyev (enemy) that reproached me; then I could bear it; neither was it he that had sinah (hatred) for me that did exalt himself against me; then I could have hid myself from him. But it was thou, an enosh (a man) equally [valued with myself], my aluf (intimate, friend), and me'yuda'i (deep acquaintance, familiar friend). Together we took sweet sod (intimate conversation, fellowship, counsel), and walked unto the Beis Elohim with the throng" (OJB).

# Some Jewish Perspectives on Psalm 55

"For it was not an enemy who insulted me; if it had been, I could have borne it. It was not my adversary who treated me with scorn; if it had been, I could have hidden myself. But it was you, a man of my own kind, my companion, whom I knew well. We used to share our hearts with each other; in the house of God we walked with the crowd" (CJB).

# Psalm 55

- v. 1 context of repeated prayers
- "...not an enemy...neither he that hateth me..."
- "...a man mine equal..."
- "...my guide..."
- "...my acquaintance..."
- "...we took sweet counsel together..."
- "...walked unto the house of God in company..."

# David and Jesus: Type and Anti-Type

David and Jesus both cross the Kidron  
(2 Sam 15:23/John 18:1).

David and Jesus both pray for deliverance  
on the Mount of Olives (2 Sam 15:31/Mark 14:26.).

“But David went up the ascent of the Mount of  
Olives, weeping as he went, barefoot and with his  
head covered...’O Lord, please turn the counsel of  
Ahithophel into foolishness.’”

“Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you [plural] that he might sift you [plural] like wheat, but I have prayed for you [sing.] that your faith may not fail. And when you [sing.] have turned again, strengthen your brothers.” (Lk. 22:31-32 ESV)



“Then Satan entered into Judas called Iscariot, who was of the number of the twelve. He went away and conferred with the chief priests and officers how he might betray him to them.” (Lk. 22:3-6 ESV)

“And you are clean, but not every one of you.’ For he knew who was to betray him; that was why he said, ‘Not all of you are clean.’”  
(Jn. 13:10-11 ESV)



Peter was clean; Judas was not

Why?

# Premeditation and Action

- ( Matt. 26:14-16 ESV) Then one of the twelve, whose name was Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, "What will you give me if I deliver him over to you?" And they paid him thirty pieces of silver. And from that moment he sought an opportunity to betray him.
- (Jn. 13:2 ESV) During supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him,

# The Cruel Sign

(Mk. 14:41 ESV) Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man. Seize him and lead him away under guard."

(Psa. 55:20-21 ESV) "My companion stretched out his hand against his friends; he violated his covenant. His speech was smooth as butter, yet war was in his heart; his words were softer than oil, yet they were drawn swords."

"Greetings, Rabbi!" And he kissed him

"Do you betray the Son of Man with a kiss?"



"Put your sword into its sheath; shall I not drink the cup that the Father has given me?"

# Did Judas Have Options?

(Matt. 26:24-25 ESV)

The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! *It would have been better for that man if he had not been born.*" Judas, who would betray him, answered, "Is it I, Rabbi?" He said to him, "You have said so."

# Judas: Regret Not Repentance

(Matt. 27:3-5 ESV) Then when Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus was condemned, he changed his mind [METAMELOMAI] and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders, saying, "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood." They said, "What is that to us? See to it yourself." And throwing down the pieces of silver into the temple, he departed, and he went and hanged himself.



# Judas and Peter

Betrayed

Denied

Acknowledged his sin

Acknowledged his sin

Fled from Jesus

Followed Jesus

Separate from the flock

With the other sheep

Sad and despairing

Sad and despairing

Thought death was the  
only way to stop the pain

Thought forgiveness was the  
only way to stop the pain

“I think that if God forgives us we must forgive ourselves. Otherwise, it is almost like setting up ourselves as a higher tribunal than Him.”

C.S. Lewis

“For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, ‘Know the Lord,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.”  
(Jer. 31:33-34 ESV)

# “Is It I, Lord?”

“Then the final step: Departure from The Faith — a rejection of our Master and Lord. For Judas this ended in physical suicide; for us it is the oblivion of spiritual suicide.

Lord, is it I? No fate is ever sealed until one makes that final, dreadful, suicidal choice. But never forget this: Even betrayal can be forgiven. Remember Peter...and remember to whom we belong” (Bro. Ted Sleeper)

