**SERMON OUTLINE**

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| **SERMON TITLE:** | Why Did Jesus Choose Judas? |
| **SERMON REFERENCE:** | John 6:63-71 |
| **LWF SERMON NUMBER:** | #2023 |
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1. INTRODUCTION
	1. The name Judas is a name of infamy, disgrace, and treachery.
		1. Yet, Jesus chose Judas.
	2. John 6:63-71
		1. In this passage, Jesus is speaking to His disciples.
		2. In verse 70, the word “devil” means “demon”, and Jesus is referring to Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon.
	3. Judas was one of the twelve disciples.
		1. Jesus chose him.
	4. Fast-forward to the Garden of Gethsemane.
		1. Matthew 26:36-50
		2. Jesus prayed until the sweat was on His brow like drops of blood.
		3. His disciples were asleep.
			1. They could not watch and pray with Him.
		4. Suddenly, there was the sound of muffled voices, clanking armor, and shuffling footsteps.
			1. The secret prayer place now was filled with people.
		5. The priests are there.
		6. From the crowd, Judas steps forward and plants a kiss on the cheek of Jesus.
		7. In hypocrisy, Judas says, “Greetings, Master.”
			1. The King James Version says, “Hail, Master.”
				1. Matthew 26:49
	5. How did all of this happen?
	6. Did all of this take Jesus by surprise?
		1. After all, Jesus chose this man.
			1. Was Jesus a bad judge of character?
			2. Did Jesus make a mistake?
				1. Jesus never made one mistake.

Mark 7:37

* 1. Jesus knew precisely what He was doing when He chose Judas, but why did He choose him?
		1. Why did He put a crook in the ministry?
		2. Why would Jesus put a man like this on His team, knowing that He would be betrayed?
	2. In today’s message as we look in the Scriptures, we will find a word of warning, a word of assurance, and a word of comfort in the answer to the question, “Why Did Jesus Choose Judas?”
1. religious hypocrisy and the need for true salvation (john 6:64)
	1. Jesus knows who the true believers are.
		1. He knows the difference.
		2. There are some people who just go through the motions.
		3. There is a line that divides people:
			1. Those who believe.
			2. Those who believe not.
	2. In this verse, Jesus was not talking about intellectual belief.
		1. The word “belief” here means “heart trust”.
			1. Jesus knew who trusted Him.
			2. Jesus knew who did not trust Him.
				1. If you don’t trust Him, then you are not saved.

Acts 16:31

* 1. This is the word of warning.
		1. Many today are in exactly the same crowd that Judas was in.
			1. Judas had the right stuff.
			2. If we had looked at Judas, we would have said that he was a great man.
	2. The right associations.
		1. Judas rubbed shoulders with the other eleven disciples.
		2. Jesus called him friend.
			1. Matthew 26:50
		3. Judas spent three-and-a-half years in the best seminary in the world, studying with the Lord Jesus Christ, learning facts and hearing Jesus Christ talk.
	3. The right reputation.
		1. At the Last Supper, Jesus said that someone would betray Him and no one said that it must be Judas.
		2. They likely might have thought it would have been Peter.
			1. Matthew 26:21-22
		3. They trusted Judas so much that he was the treasurer of their group.
			1. John 12:6
			2. He was the man who kept the money bag.
			3. Who do you make treasurer?
				1. The person who has the most outward integrity.
				2. The person whom you respect the most.
	4. The right participation.
		1. Judas was a worker.
		2. He went out with the other disciples when they went out to teach, to preach, and to do good.
	5. There are a lot of people like this in churches today.
		1. They are in a Bible-believing church.
			1. They have a good association.
		2. Everyone thinks that they are a wonderful person.
			1. They have a good reputation.
				1. And they may be, outwardly.
		3. They do a lot of good things.
			1. They may sing in the choir, take the offering, or teach a Sunday school class.
			2. They have good participation.
	6. Matthew 7:22-23
		1. This should be a warning to us.
			1. The devil had rather send someone to Hell from the church pew than he had from the gutter.
		2. Many people who go to church on Sundays have never been born again.
			1. No one suspected Judas.
	7. Many people have a form of godliness, but they have denied the power thereof.
		1. This is the reason the Bible says to examine yourself and see whether you are in the faith.
			1. 2 Corinthians 13:5
		2. Don’t think that because you are religious that you are going to Heaven.
			1. It was a religious crowd that crucified Jesus.
	8. Not only is this a warning, but it is also an encouragement.
		1. The other eleven disciples did not quit serving the Lord Jesus Christ.
			1. Don’t let some Judas, some hypocrite, keep you from loving and serving the Lord Jesus Christ.
	9. There are hypocrites in the church.
		1. There have been, there are, and there always will be.
		2. The Bible clearly prophesies it.
			1. The enemy sows tares among the wheat.
				1. Matthew 13:25
		3. Hypocrites come and go.
			1. Don’t let some hypocrite keep you out of Heaven.
	10. Hypocrisy really hurts when it is in the ministry.
		1. Many people are Hell-bound because of the scandals involving some television preachers.
		2. Every time someone points out a scoundrel in the ministry, it is only a testimony to the fact that God’s preachers around the world have been standing true for the Lord Jesus Christ.
			1. There are far fewer scandals in the ministry than there are ministers.
			2. There are hundreds of thousands of men preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
				1. Many are in little country churches who are underpaid, overworked, and unappreciated; but they love Jesus with all of their hearts.
	11. Judas was a hypocrite.
		1. But Peter was not a hypocrite, neither was Andrew, James, or John.
		2. Don’t let some Judas keep you from serving and loving the Lord Jesus Christ.
	12. This is a warning to the ineptitude and the weakness of the social gospel.
		1. This episode in John 6 took place after Jesus fed 5,000 people.
			1. The crowds were clamoring for Him.
		2. John 6:47-51
		3. Every time a building is built to preach the Gospel in, someone will ask why the money was not used to feed the poor.
			1. When the Gospel is preached, the poor are fed the Bread of Life.
			2. They need Jesus.
			3. If all we do is to feed them physically, then they will be hungry again in a few hours.
			4. Jesus fed the poor, and we should as well; but people need more than that.
		4. Satan has taken the social gospel, which is not a Gospel at all, and failed to teach that men need more than soup and soap, they need salvation.
			1. They need the Lord Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life.
		5. Today, many churches have become glorified country clubs.
			1. They have their social programs, but they are not preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
			2. All they are doing is making the world a better place to go to Hell from.
	13. We have to live somewhere forever, either in Heaven or Hell.
	14. Jesus chose Judas to help us understand religious hypocrisy and the need for true salvation.
		1. Jesus knew who they were who believed not.
	15. What difference does it make if a person is educated in a progressive school, wears nice clothes, eats vitamin-enriched food, and sleeps on a soft mattress, if he must rise in the judgment and face a God he does not know?
	16. We should do everything we can do to help alleviate human hurt, but God forbid that we should ever fail to preach the Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
		1. Environment is not enough.
			1. Jesus gave Judas a wonderful environment.
			2. Man got into trouble in the Garden of Eden.
1. divine sovereignty and the reliabilty of the scripture (john 6:64)
	1. John 13:18
		1. Jesus spoke of those who needed to be saved.
		2. In this verse, Jesus quoted Psalm 41:9.
	2. John 13:19
		1. “He” in this verse is “the Messiah”.
	3. Jesus knew whom He had chosen.
		1. He knew that there was one who did not believe.
	4. The Scripture said that this would happen.
		1. This was not an accident.
		2. This was not as though something had gone wrong.
		3. Divine sovereignty has seen through the ages that this would take place.
		4. It was done so that the Scripture would be fulfilled.
			1. When they saw it, they would know that Jesus is the Messiah.
	5. Judas preached a message that Jesus is the Messiah.
		1. Where man rules, God overrules.
	6. Judas had a choice.
		1. God gave him a choice.
			1. Judas was not forced to betray Jesus.
			2. God wanted him saved.
			3. Jesus loved Judas and would have forgiven him and saved him.
		2. Then, why was it prophesied what Judas would do? Doesn’t that mean that Judas didn’t have a choice?
			1. No, God does not cripple a man and then blame him for limping.
			2. Where man rules, God overrules.
			3. We see one point at a time; God sees all at one time.
				1. There is one thing that God cannot do, and that is to learn anything.

He knows everything.

How can you be omniscient and learn anything?

* + - * 1. God knew exactly what Judas would do before Judas did it.

Did Judas have a choice?

Absolutely.

Did God know it before time?

Yes.

Did God overrule it?

Yes.

Is God still in charge?

Yes.

* + - * 1. We dwell in time; God dwells in eternity.

The past, present, and future are all alike to Him.

* 1. There is a word of warning:
		1. Watch religious hypocrisy.
	2. There is a word of assurance:
		1. Nothing is out of control.
			1. God knows exactly, precisely everything that will happen.
			2. We are on the winning side.
				1. Jesus shall reign.
1. personal responsibility and the tragedy of sin (john 6:64, 70-71)
	1. Judas was responsible for what he did.
		1. He was not a machine; he was not forced to betray Jesus.
		2. The Bible tells us that Judas was a thief.
			1. John 12:6
		3. John 6:64
		4. John 6:70-71
			1. He betrayed Jesus for thirty pieces of silver.
				1. Matthew 26:15
	2. Sin had deceived Judas.
		1. Matthew 27:4
		2. After Judas realized what he had done, the Bible says that he went to the chief priests and the elders and gave them back the thirty pieces of sliver.
			1. Matthew 27:3-5
		3. He said that he had betrayed innocent blood.
		4. The deed that he had done gnawed at his conscience; it brought him to despair.
		5. Sin promised much, but it paid little.
		6. The bread of deceit is sweet; but afterward, a person’s mouth shall be filled with gravel.
		7. His sin deceived him, and sin will deceive you.
	3. Sin had destroyed Judas.
		1. Matthew 27:3-5
			1. He took the thirty pieces of silver back to the court and threw it on the ground.
				1. They used it to buy a field to bury paupers in.

Matthew 27:6-8

* + 1. He had remorse of soul, anguish of mind, and was fearful.
			1. The devil who had enticed him was now the devil who condemned him and accused him.
			2. Judas was not under Holy Spirit conviction; he was under remorse.
				1. There is a difference.
		2. Judas hanged himself as he tried to escape the Hell within him, he stepped into the Hell before him.
		3. Sin is not pretty.
			1. Judas, where are your friends now?
			2. Judas, where is your silver now?
			3. Judas, where is your power now?
		4. Acts 1:18
		5. Matthew 27:5
	1. Sin had damned Judas.
		1. Judas did not end his life when he hanged himself.
			1. People will say that they are going to commit suicide and end it all.
				1. But you cannot end it all.
		2. Acts 1:25
			1. He went to his own place.
				1. There is a place in Hell.
		3. Judas chose, and he chose wrongly.
	2. C.S. Lewis said that there are basically two types of people on Earth:
		1. There are those who are like Jesus and say to God the Father, “Not my will, but Thine be done.”
			1. They follow the Lamb.
			2. They love Him.
			3. They are saved.
		2. There are those who are like Satan and say to God the Father, “Not Thy will, but mine be done.”
			1. Those who say to God, “Not Thy will but mine be done”, when they drop into Hell, a broken-hearted God will say, “Not My will, but thine be done.”
	3. 2 Peter 3:9
	4. God gives you a choice.
		1. God gave Judas a choice.
			1. God knew what choice he would make.
		2. Judas made the wrong choice.
			1. He died and went to Hell.
				1. “*He went to His own place*.”

Acts 1:25

1. security of the believer (john 6:64, 67-69)
	1. Some people state that they can’t believe in eternal security because of Judas.
		1. They say that Judas lost his salvation.
			1. But Judas never had salvation; Judas was never saved.
				1. John 6:64
	2. There was a great difference between Judas and Simon Peter.
		1. John 6:67-69
		2. Judas was outwardly religious, but he never had been born again (saved).
		3. Simon Peter was rough and stumbling on the outside, but he had been born again.
			1. And God kept him.
			2. John 6:37
		4. John 6:47-50
			1. Judas did not believe.
	3. Why do we believe in eternal security?
		1. John 10:27-30
	4. What was the difference between Judas and Peter?
		1. Luke 22:21, 34
			1. Judas betrayed Jesus and went to Hell.
			2. Peter denied Jesus, and he is in Heaven.
		2. Jesus said of Judas, “It had been good for him to have never been born.
			1. Matthew 26:24
				1. If someone is not born twice (saved), then he will regret that he was ever born at all.
				2. The Bible says that Judas died and went to his own place.

Acts 1:25

* + 1. What about Peter?
			1. Luke 22:31-32
				1. Jesus never prayed a prayer that was not answered.

John 11:41-42

* + - 1. Peter loved Jesus.
				1. Weak and stumbling, he said, “*We believe and are sure that You are the Christ*.”

Matthew 16:16

Do you believe that?

1. CONCLUSION
	1. You need to put your faith where God has put your sins, which is right on Jesus.
	2. Acts 16:31
	3. If you do not get saved, then you are in the same category as Judas.
	4. There are only two categories of people in the world:
		1. The saved
		2. The lost
	5. Matthew 12:30
		1. You cannot be on the fence.
		2. Either you are in the Simon Peter crowd, or you are in the Judas crowd.
			1. The difference is faith.
	6. John 6:64
	7. Matthew 16:16
	8. John 6:37
		1. That does not mean that God will not chastise you.
		2. It does mean that if you will give your heart to Jesus, then He will save you and keep you saved if you truly trust Him.
		3. This is not talking about just being religious like Judas, but truly trusting Jesus.
	9. Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
	10. Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
		1. Romans 3:23
		2. Romans 10:9-10
		3. Romans 10:13
		4. John 3:16