



A just weight
and balance

are the
LORD'S:

Thus saith the Lord...

- **Jezebel** is the most hated woman in the Bible
- In today's sermon however we are not going to talk about the most hated woman but the **most hated man in the Bible** instead.
- That being none other than **Judas Iscariot.**

- After all Jezebel was a heathen who worshiped Baal and we can expect nothing but bad from this woman.
- Judas in the other hand was a Jewish man probably brought up in a godly home and was a disciple of Christ.
- Then what made Judas so sinister?

- Matthew 27:3

Then Judas, which had betrayed him, when he saw that he was condemned, repented himself, and brought again the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders,

- 27:4 **Saying, I have sinned in that I have betrayed the innocent blood.**

And they said, What is that to us? see thou to that.

- 27:5 **And he cast down the pieces of silver in the temple, and departed, and went and hanged himself.**

- The opening of **Matthew 27**

describes the delivery of our Lord Jesus Christ into the hands of the **Gentiles**.

- The **chief priests** and **elders** of the Jews led him away to **Pontius Pilate**, the Roman governor.

- We see in this incident the finger of God:
 - Here we find that Gentiles as well as Jews involved in the murder of Christ;
 - By this event the Jews had to publicly confess that
- “ **The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, until Shiloh come;** ”
(Genesis 49:10)

- That being that they were unable to put anyone to death without the authority of the Romans:
- The words of Jacob were therefore fulfilled.
 - The Messiah, Shiloh had indeed come (Genesis 49:10).

- The subject of our sermon for today **is the sad end of this false apostle,**
Judas Iscariot.
- Judas is **not alone** in this category.
- **2Co 11:13** For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ.
- **11:14** And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.
- **11:15** Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.

- At some point in his ministry Judas had **“shut up his compassion”** for the poor.

- **1John 3:17**

If we are rich and see others in need, yet close our hearts against them, how can we claim that we love God?

- Regrettably, for Judas that lack of compassion **overflowed to include Jesus.**

- When Mary, Lazarus' sister, anointed Jesus' feet with a “very precious” ointment, Judas complained about it.
- His rationalization was that the valuable substance might have been sold, with the revenue distributed to the poor.
- But John affirmed that his protest had nothing to do with “care for the poor” (John 12:6).
- The object of his interest was “poor Judas.”

- John declared that his protest was powered by greed, for he was a thief, who **“took away”** (**John 12:6** ASV) what was deposited in the treasury.
 - The Greek verb **reflects a sustained practice.**
 - Judas had become a petty thief!
 - **1 Timothy 4:2** **having their conscience seared with a hot iron;**

- **1Corinthians 15:33** (GNB)

Do not be fooled.

"Bad companions ruin good character."

- **One bad apple**
is a danger to the others.
- The critical spirit of Judas
was absorbed by some
of the other disciples.
(**Matthew 26:8; Mark 14:4**).
- Keep this fact in mind.

- Although a false apostle Judas serves as a **subject full of instruction:**

- Let us **remember** well what it contains.

- May I suggest

- 6 lessons**

- from the life of Judas.

- # 1 We see in the end of Judas a plain proof of our Lord's innocence of every charge laid against him.

- If there was any living witness who could give evidence against our Lord Jesus Christ, Judas Iscariot was the man.

- A **chosen apostle** of Jesus,
 - A constant **companion**,
- A **witness** of all his teaching, both in public and private
 - He would have known well **if our Lord had done any wrong,** either in word or deed.
- **So why not call this witness** to the stand to testify?

- In addition Judas was a **deserter** from our Lord's company,
 - A **betraye**r of him into the hands of his enemies,
 - It was his interest **for his own character's sake,** to prove Jesus guilty.

- It would extenuate and excuse his own conduct if he could prove that his former Master was an offender and an impostor.

- Why then did not Judas Iscariot not come forward?
 - Why did he not stand forth before the Jewish council and specify his charges, if he had any to make?
 - Why did he not venture to accompany the chief priests to Pilate, and prove to the Romans that Jesus was a criminal?

- **There is but one answer**
to these questions.
- Judas did not come forward
as a witness, because
the Jewish leaders
knew he
had betrayed innocent blood.
 - Which he admitted
even before the trial began.
- Judas would have **recanted**
and the leaders could not afford
for that to happen

- Bad as he was,
he knew he
could prove nothing
against Christ;
- Wicked as he was,
he knew well that
his Master was
holy, harmless,
innocent, blameless
and true.

- Let this never be forgotten.
 - The absence of Judas Iscariot at our Lord's trial is one among many proofs that the Lamb of God was without blemish, a sinless man.
(2 Corinthians 5:21)

- **# 2** We see in Judas **a repentance which is too late.**
- We are told plainly that Judas **“repented himself.”**
(**Matthew 27:3**)
- We are even told that he went to the priests and said, **“I have sinned.”**
(**Matthew 27:4**)
 - Yet he did not **repent unto salvation.**

- Yet, Judas did testify.
 - **Matthew 27:4**
I have sinned
in that
I have betrayed
innocent blood.
- But the Jewish leaders
were not interested.
 - **And they said,**
What is that to us?

- The Jewish leaders were seeking witnesses, just not Judas.

- Mark 14:55

And the chief priests and all the council sought for witness against Jesus to put him to death; and found none.

- 14:56 For many bare false witness against him, but their witness agreed not together.

- It is a common saying that **“it is never too late to repent.”**
- The saying, no doubt, is true, **if repentance be true;**
 - But regrettably, late repentance **is often not genuine.**

- It is possible for a man to know he has sinned, and be sorry for them
 - To express deep remorse
 - To be pricked in conscience,
 - To exhibit much distress of mind
 - and yet, for all this, not repent with his heart.
- (Proverbs 23:7)

- **Proverbs 23:7**

**For as he thinks
in his heart,
so is he:**

- The fear of death,
may account for
all his
fake repentance.

- Let us beware of trusting to a late repentance.

**Now is the accepted time
today is the
day of salvation.”
(2 Corinthians 6:2)**

- Let us delay nothing that concerns our souls,

- Luke 12:20

But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee:

- And above all do not put off repentance.

- The words of Solomon on this subject are very fearful:
- **He speaks of men who shall call upon God but he will not answer;**
- **who shall seek him early and not find him.**
(Proverbs 1:28)

- # 3 Let us see in Judas how little comfort ungodliness brings a man at the last.

- We are told that he cast down the thirty pieces of silver for which he had sold his Master in the temple, and went away in bitterness of soul.

- The thirty pieces of silver were easily earned.

- But brought him no pleasure,

even when he had it:

“the treasures of wickedness
profit nothing.”

(Proverbs 10:2).

- Sin is, in truth,
the hardest of all masters.
- **“Cannot cease from sin”**
(2 Peter 2:14)
- **Sin becomes the master:**
 - **2 Peter 2:19**
While they
promise them liberty,
they themselves are the
servants of corruption:
for of whom a man is overcome,
of the same is he brought
in bondage.

- In sins service there are plenty of fair promises,
 - Its pleasures are but for a season:
 - Its wages are:
 - Sorrow,
 - Remorse,
 - Death.

- They that sow to the flesh do indeed reap destruction.

- **Galatians 6:7**

**Be not deceived; God is not mocked:
for whatsoever a man sows,
that shall he also reap.**

- **6:8** For he that sows to his flesh shall of the flesh reap **corruption**; but he that sows to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap **life everlasting.**

- Let us remember the words of Scripture, **“your sin will find you out”** (**Numbers 32:23**),
- Sooner or later, in this life or in the life to come, **sin and the sinner will meet face to face,** and have a bitter reckoning.

- Let us be sure that of all trades sin is the most unprofitable.
 - Judas,
 - Achan,
 - Gehazi,
- Ananias and Sapphira
 - All found it to be unprofitable.

- Well might we heed the words of Paul when he says:
“**What fruit had you in those things whereof you are now ashamed?”**
(**Romans 6:21**).

- **# 4** We see in the case of Judas a man who had great privilege but failed to use it.

- We are told that this unhappy man
“**departed and went,
and hanged himself.**”
 - What an awful death to die.
 - An apostle of Christ,
- A former preacher of the Gospel,
 - A companion of Peter, James and John.

- What great **opportunity** went to waste.
- Judas commits suicide and rushes into God's presence **unprepared** and **unforgiven.**

- # 5

Let us never forget
that Judas
sinned against
light
and
knowledge.

- **2 Peter 2:15**

**Which have forsaken
the right way,
and are gone astray,
following the way of Balaam
the son of Bosor,
who loved the wages of
unrighteousness;**

- **2:17 These are wells without water,
clouds that are carried with a
tempest; to whom the mist of
darkness is reserved for ever.**

- Let us remember:
 - Lot's wife,
 - Pharaoh,
 - Korah,
 - Dathan,
 - Abiram
- Saul, King of Israel:
- Let them be examples burned int our memory.

- It is written in Proverbs,
“**He that being
often reprovved
yet stiffens his neck
shall suddenly
be destroyed
and that without remedy.”**
(**Proverbs 29:1**).

- May we all strive to live up to the light.

- Ephesians 4:30

And

grieve not

the holy Spirit of God,

- There may be a clear knowledge of truth in the head,
- And yet a deliberate love of sin in the heart,
- Followed by a refusal to repent.

- And now
what is the
state of our hearts?

- Let us
remember Judas,
and beware.

- **May Judas serve as a beacon:**
let us look well at him,
and not play the fool.
- **1Ti 1:19 Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck:**
- **1:20 Of whom is Hymenaeus and Alexander; whom I have delivered unto Satan,..**
- May we **add Judas** to that list.
- And may we **NOT** add yous or mine!

- **# 6** Luke says that Judas
 “fell away”
 and went to
 “his own place,”
 (Acts 1:25)
- Judas determined
 his own destiny.
- What is yours
 and mine?

**The doors of the church
are open.**

**The Spirit and the Bride
Say
“Come”.**

Revelation 22:17



