

Daily Devotion For March 31, 2021

⁴ Then one of the Twelve—the one called Judas Iscariot—went to the chief priests ¹⁵ and asked, “What are you willing to give me if I deliver him over to you?” So they counted out for him thirty pieces of silver. ¹⁶ From then on Judas watched for an opportunity to hand him over.” Matthew 26:14-16

This week we have been looking at some of the events in the life of Jesus that took place during Holy Week. Today, we look at the decision of Judas to betray Jesus. Although the betrayal doesn't take place for another day, our knowledge of this betrayal helps our understanding of what happened at the Last Supper. Probably no other name in the bible is as infamous as Judas. The name of Judas is synonymous with treachery and betrayal.

But the life of Judas puzzles me. After all, Judas witnessed firsthand the miracles of Jesus. He ate with Him. Fellowshiped with Him. Was given power to cast out demons and heal the sick. He witnessed Jesus walking on water, feeding the 5000, then the 4,000.

Every other disciple grew in their faith at each new manifestation of Jesus' power, love, mercy, and holiness. But not Judas. Still, it wasn't obvious to the disciples that Jesus was speaking of Judas when He said one of them would betray Him. And how could Judas do this after all he'd seen and heard? The reason is because it doesn't matter if God Himself is sitting right next to you, if the Lord doesn't open your spiritual eyes, you will never understand, you will never recognize Him.

Thought For Today: Like Judas, there are those today who have spent time surrounded by believers, who may be actively involved in ministry, and yet, don't know Jesus as Savior and Lord. In Luke 6:46, Jesus said, why do you call me Lord and do not do what I say?” Although we may not be like Judas, are their times in your life when you call Jesus Lord and do not do what He says?

Today's Prayer Focus: Pray for those of Asian Ancestry who have been the recipients of Anti-Asian Sentiments. Continue to pray this week's prayer fuel. Deo Volente.

our knowledge of the impending act colors our reading of the Last Supper story, which we'll encounter tomorrow. Here's the short but critical scene from Wednesday of Holy Week: