

Spy Wednesday

Read Matthew 26: 6-16

Antagonism towards God's Son from the religious leaders was growing. They were already scheming ways to kill Jesus. Then came Wednesday and with it they got the devilish help they needed from one of His intimate friends. While Judas wouldn't officially betray Jesus until the following night, his initial meeting with Jesus' enemies, and his stated intent to give Jesus up to them for thirty pieces of silver lies behind the name, Spy Wednesday.

Why did the religious leaders need Judas' help? Read Matthew 26:3-5 and Matthew 26:16 and record your thoughts below.

Jesus was a popular figure with the masses. They needed to take him in secret. None better to help identify such a time and place than one of his right-hand men. At this point, we could look at the progression of Judas' fall. Scripture would tell us he was a thief and the love of money led to the single greatest betrayal in history. But I'd rather see what Judas's story can teach us, about us.

The very name of Judas Iscariot conjures up images of a villain. But, if we could go back to the early days, when Judas first began to follow Jesus, we might see a different man. Read how the NASB or the ESV translations of the Bible record Luke 6:16 and how Judas is described below.

Judas was always a traitor.

Judas became a traitor.

Those are sobering words to me. They speak of choices, and we all have choices. They make me ask hard questions of myself. Who am I becoming?

Are you willing to ask that of yourself? Who are you becoming? Not who are we, but who are we becoming?

God's Word holds some equally somber warnings for us on this subject. 2nd Timothy 3:7 is one of them. In your own words, what does this verse tell us is possible?

Thankfully, we don't have to live in fear of constantly learning without coming to the Truth, and we don't have to worry about becoming someone who would betray Jesus. The Bible gives us the happy antidote.

Our confidence can be found in choosing to constantly apply what we are ever learning! There are so many passages we could go to here, but we'll let Jesus' half-brother have the last word today. Record James 1:22 in the space provided.

Yes, we should be careful if we are standing, lest we fall (I Cor. 10-12). But, friends, the best policy for not falling away is sticking ever closer!