

“Betrayal”

John 18:1-11

Introduction

- I. It is a terrible feeling to be betrayed.
- II. It is even more so when the betrayal comes from one who is close to us.
- III. Judas' betrayal of Jesus is the ultimate example of betrayal, and from it we can learn many things.

Discussion

- I. Judas' betrayal of Jesus allows us to see the wisdom and knowledge of God.
 - A. The betrayal had been prophesied long before it occurred (Psm. 41:9; Zech. 11:12-13).
 - B. Jesus knew that He was to be betrayed (John 6:64, 70-71; Matt. 26:25).
 - C. The foreknowledge of God is shown, but that did not eliminate Judas' choice (Acts 2:23; Luke 22:3; James 4:7).
- II. Judas' betrayal of Jesus allows us to see the wickedness of man.
 - A. Like so many wicked things, Judas betrayed Jesus at night (Luke 22:52-53).
 - B. Even our closest friends commit wicked acts (Matt. 26:14-15, 50; Psm. 41:9; [consider “the kiss” Luke 7:44-45; 22:48]).
 - C. Greed and covetousness consumes so many (1 Tim. 6:6-12; Luke 12:15; [30 pieces of silver was the price for a slave; Exo. 21:32 cf. Zech. 11:13]).
 - D. Jesus was treated like he was criminal (John 18:3; Matt. 26:55).
- III. Judas' betrayal of Jesus allows us to see pure, sacrificial love.
 - A. Jesus willing allowed Himself to be mistreated (John 10:15-18).
 - B. Jesus could have stopped the betrayal at any moment (Matt. 26:50-54).
 - C. Even amidst the betrayal, Jesus showed His care for His disciples (John 18:8).

Conclusion

- I. Betrayal is a terrible thing to endure.
- II. Jesus showed us how to handle betrayal, and we all should strive to imitate His example.