

The Gospel of John

Betrayal and Denial

John 13:21-38

Among the disciples was a traitor who would betray their Master. He would sell out the Lord for thirty silver shekels, the ceremonial price of a slave (Exodus 21:32). But he was not the only one who would disappoint the Saviour. Someone from the inner circle would deny Him multiple times before the night ended.

The Setting

- At the Last Supper
- Night of 14th of Nisan, Tuesday night
- Christ has already told them numerous times that one should betray him.

The Story

- Christ foretells the betrayal – vs. 21
- The disciples did not know who it could be – vs. 22
- Peter gets John to quietly ask who it was – vs. 23-25
 - John does not mention himself by name in his Gospel, though he does speak in the first person (21:25)
 - John is reclined on a couch next to Christ.
- Christ reveals that it is Judas – vs. 26
- Judas leaves to do His evil deed – vs. 27
 - Prophecies about Judas's betrayal – Psalm 41:9, Zechariah 11:12-13
- No disciple suspected Judas as he departed – vs. 28-30
- Christ is glorified through His death – vs. 31-32
 - We tend to focus on the evil machinations of Judas and the suffering of Christ, but through the events to come God is glorified through Christ's sacrifice and resurrection.
- Christ is to be with them a short while longer, as said in 7:28-29 – vs. 33
- The new commandment: Love One Another – vs. 34
- Loving the brethren shows our love of God – vs. 35
- Peter asks where the Lord is going – vs. 36
- Christ foretells that Peter will die for Christ – vs. 36
- Peter responds declaring he was willing to be a martyr – vs. 37
- Christ tells him that he will deny him three times this night – vs. 38