

A Warrior's Notes

Deceitful and Faithful Friends

Mark 14:44 says, “And he that betrayed him had given them a token, saying, Whomsoever I shall kiss, that same is he; take him, and lead him away safely.”

Judas used a kiss , a sign of love and loyalty, as the instrument of betrayal.

In contrast,

Proverbs 27:6 reminds us, “Faithful are the wounds of a friend; but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful.”

The Bible teaches that appearances can deceive. Judas' kiss looked affectionate, but it concealed treachery. A true friend, however, may speak hard truths or give loving correction. Those words may sting for a moment, but they are acts of faithfulness meant to guard our soul.

A faithful Christian should not measure love by smooth words alone. Sometimes the most loving person in your life is the one willing to wound your pride to protect your walk with God.

Deceit flatters; faithfulness refines.

In **2 Samuel 12**, the prophet Nathan confronted King David after his sin with Bathsheba. Nathan's rebuke pierced David's heart, yet it was an act of loyal love. His faithful “wound” led David to repentance and

restoration (**Psalm 51**). Nathan proved to be a true friend by speaking truth rather than offering flattering silence.

In **Galatians 2:11–14**, Paul publicly rebuked Peter for hypocrisy. Though painful, that correction preserved the truth of the gospel. Paul was not Peter's enemy; he was a faithful brother whose words strengthened the early church.

Beware of kisses that hide compromise, and cherish friends who love you enough to tell the truth.

Ask God to make you both humble enough to receive faithful wounds and courageous enough to give them in love..