

Matthew 26:47-56 NKJV ... And while He was still speaking, behold, Judas, one of the twelve, with a great multitude with swords and clubs, came from the chief priests and elders of the people. 48 Now His betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "Whomever I kiss, He is the One; seize Him." 49 Immediately he went up to Jesus and said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" and kissed Him. 50 But Jesus said to him, "Friend, why have you come?" Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and took Him. 51 And suddenly, one of those who were with Jesus stretched out his hand and drew his sword, struck the servant of the high priest, and cut off his ear. 52 But Jesus said to him, "Put your sword in its place, for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. 53 Or do you think that I cannot now pray to My Father, and He will provide Me with more than twelve legions of angels? 54 How then could the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must happen thus?" 55 In that hour Jesus said to the multitudes, "Have you come out, as against a robber, with swords and clubs to take Me? I sat daily with you, teaching in the temple, and you did not seize Me. 56 But all this was done that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled." Then all the disciples forsook Him and fled.

Matthew 5:43-45a NKJV ... "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' 44 But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, 45 that you may be sons of your Father in heaven;

Mark 8:29 NKJV ... He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered and said to Him, "You are the Christ."

Mark 8:31-33 NKJV ... And He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things, and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. 32 He spoke this word openly. Then Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him. 33 But when He had turned around and looked at His disciples, He rebuked Peter, saying, "Get behind Me, Satan! For you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men."

John 13:29 NIV ... says, ...Judas had charge of the money...

The Benefits of An Enemy

 **1. Your Enemy is a Gift.**

- **Mt 5:10-11** NIV ... Blessed (empowered to prosper in every area of life) are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 11 "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. 12 Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.
- **2 Corinthians 4:17-18** NKJV ... For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory.
- **Malachi 3:2-3** NKJV ... For he will be like a refiner's fire or a launderer's soap. He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver;

Notes:

 **2. Pushes Us to Pray.**

- **2 Corinthians 12:8** NKJV ... Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me
- **2 Corinthians 12:8** Msg ... Satan's angel did his best to get me down; what he in fact did was push me to my knees.

Notes:



3. Compels us to Rely on God.

- **Matthew 26:46** NKJV ... "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"
- **Luke 23:46** NKJV ... And when Jesus had cried out with a loud voice, He said, "Father, 'into Your hands I commit My spirit.' " Having said this, He breathed His last.

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4. Produces Greater Power In Our Lives.

- **John 18:4-6** NKJV... Jesus therefore, knowing all things that would come upon Him, went forward and said to them, "Whom are you seeking?" 5 They answered Him, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus said to them, "I am He." And Judas, who betrayed Him, also stood with them. 6 Now when He said to them, "I am He," they drew back and fell to the ground.
- **John 18:6** NKJV ... Now when He said to them, "I am He," they drew back and fell to the ground.
- **Mark 14:51-52** NKJV ... Now a certain young man followed Him, having a linen cloth thrown around his naked body. And the young men laid hold of him, 52 and he left the linen cloth and fled from them naked.

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5. Is the Doorway to Our Destiny.

- **Matthew 26:50** NIV ... Jesus replied, "Do what you came for, friend." Then the men stepped forward, seized Jesus and arrested him.

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