

Pastor Jim Jackson, 4/19/26
Days With Jesus, Day 41—From Disciple to Devil
John 13:18-30

The betrayal was PROPHESIED by David

After Jesus washed his disciples' feet at the last supper, he explained that someone he deeply invested in would betray him. Nearly 1000 years earlier, King David described a close friend he shared meals and life with would betray him in his time of need (Ps. 41:9). *No amount of good and grace to others can protect you from being hurt and harmed by them* (Eph. 4:30)! Jesus reassured them he knew of the upcoming treason from Judas, and that it was in God's plan. Being God, Jesus sees into the future, and then tells them that when it happens they will know he is 'I AM' (Ex. 3:14). *God uses surprising circumstances to show your weakness and His strength!*

The betrayal was PROCLAIMED by Jesus

It's not clear why betrayal was connected to Jesus' death. But it was so unprovoked and unimaginable, the other disciples had no idea of Judas' plans. His motives and actions were so hidden, only Jesus knew what was going on in the background (Matt. 26:14-16). *God knows the hidden things and will sometimes do a merciful deletion because He heard what was said behind your back* (Heb. 4:13)! As a last opportunity to repent, Jesus calls Judas out to his face at dinner (Matt. 26:25). When John asked who the betrayer was, Jesus gives Judas the first bite of dinner, which was given to the guest of honor. After eating it, Satan enters him, and he leaves without raising any suspicion. For the only time in history, God and Satan were incarnated in the same room! *The fruit can look similar in quality until God shakes the tree and the rotten ones fall off!*

The betrayal was PERFORMED by Judas

Maybe Judas thought he was doing God's work by stopping Jesus or just wanted to make money off of him. But after warning Judas that whoever betrays him it would have been better if he had never been born, Judas still goes through with it (Matt. 26:24). Judas sells his teacher and friend for 30 pieces of silver—the price of a first-century slave (~\$10,000; Ex. 21:32 Matt. 26:15). *Even those close to Jesus can be deceived into damaging rather than unifying his Kingdom!* As it was Judas, not Satan, charged with betrayal, he used his access and influence to try to destroy God's good work. *Nothing can overcome the Power and Presence of our perfect God!*