



Jesus' Farewell Word

Jesus and Betrayal– John 13:18-20

January 22, 2023

As Jesus celebrated Passover with his disciples, the final word was love. Listen in as Lewis Roderick takes us to the disturbing account of Judas' betrayal, and see the Saviour love his enemy.

For personal reflection/community discussion

Read – Read the passage in its context several times. Read it slow enough to understand what God is saying through it.

- What ideas or words are emphasised, repeated or related in this passage?
- In your own words, what is the main idea of this passage? (Try to summarise these verses in 10 words or less)

Examine – Next, try to understand the specifics of what the passage is communicating.

- What do you notice about God? What has he done/is he doing in these verses?
- What do you learn about Jesus and his gospel from this passage?
- What does it reveal about people?
- How do you think the writer wanted his reader to respond to these words?

Apply - After seeking to understand God's Word in this passage, consider how he intends to use it in your heart and life today.

- Does your vision of Jesus suffer? Consider Salvador Dali's depiction in the painting Lewis showed at the beginning of the message. How does his image engage with John's, and our own?
- Similarly, consider the strength of control Jesus demonstrates in these verses. Martin Luther claimed that "the devil is God's devil." What might Luther mean by this? Some evangelicals would find this idea problematic. Why do you think this is the case? How would you answer them?
- Consider these words from JC Ryle:

"Let us mark, lastly, in these verses, the extreme hardness which comes over the heart of a backsliding professor of religion. This is a thing which is most painfully brought out in the case of Judas Iscariot. One might have thought that the sight of our Lord's trouble, and the solemn warning, "One of you shall betray Me," would have stirred the conscience of this unhappy man. But it did not do so. . . Like one whose conscience was dead, buried, and gone, he rises and goes out to do his wicked work, and parts with his Lord forever." - JC Ryle

John warns us of the Judas to come well before he actually betrays Jesus. We do not get such clear forewarnings about someone who professes but ends up denying Christ. Take time to pray specifically that God will keep such a tendency from developing in you, your family, and your church.