

THE SEEDS OF THE CRIME
Motive... Conspiracy... Missing body

Part 5: The Conspiracy Theory

INTRODUCTION – The Kiss of Betrayal

Matthew 26:47-50

The greatest pain of Christ's death was not the _____ but the _____.

Forces At Work In The Death Of Christ...

The Motivation of Judas

#1. Provoking Jesus to _____.

Joshua 15:25; Acts 21:38

#2. Giving up on Jesus (while _____ his own hide).

#3. _____.

Matthew 26:14-15; John 12:4-6

#4. The influence of _____.

John 8:44; 1 Peter 5:8; 1 John 5:19; 2 Timothy 2:26; 2 Cor. 4:4
 Luke 22:1-6; John 13:2, 27

#5. The sovereignty of _____.

John 6:64, 70-71; 13:10-11, 18-19; 17:12; Acts 1:16; 2:23
 Psalm 41:9
 Note: John 13:18-19

Can Judas Be Blamed?

Forced by the devil?...

Luke 22:31-34; 2 Corinthians 2:14; 1 Corinthians 10:13

Forced by God?...

Matthew 23:37; Luke 7:30; Acts 7:51

All of the disciples _____ Jesus. Judas responded to conviction with _____ and _____, but not with _____. And THAT is the difference.

CONCLUSION – Holy "Aikido", Batman!

Colossians 2:14-15; 1 Thessalonians 2:18



HOME CHURCH QUESTIONS...

WARNING UP...

1. After briefly reviewing this week's message, share one thing that most challenged, convicted, or encouraged you.
2. If time permits, talk about your answer to one of the following questions: a) Have you ever known the "kiss" of betrayal? b) Have you ever been the one to betray another who trusted you? c) Have you ever played the role of Peter, not standing up for who Jesus is to you in a moment of fear or awkwardness?

LOOK TO THE BOOK...

3. Read 1 Corinthians 10:11-13. a) In what areas of your life do you tend to be overconfident and hence apt to "fall"? b) Are there areas of your life that make verse 13 seem untrue to you? c) What could you change in your life-patterns or attitudes to experience more of the truth of verse 13 in your life?
4. If Satan believed the crucifixion of Christ was his bright idea toward which he labored, what does this tell us about how God can uses any difficulty (even any disaster) in our lives? Discuss this in light of Genesis 50:20; John 15:2; 1 Thessalonians 2:18; 2 Corinthians 12: 7-10; Romans 8:28.
5. It seems as though Satan can be given space for greater influence in our lives through our areas of disobedience to God. For each of the following passages, list: i) the general area of temptation being referred to, ii) the solution to the problem, iii) your experience in that regard. a) Ephesians 4:26-27, b) 1 Corinthians 7:5. c) 2 Corinthians 2:10-11, d) John 12:4-6.
6. Read Ezekiel 33:10-16. What lessons in this passage might Judas have benefited from remembering? List them.

SO WHAT?...

7. Do you know anyone today who might benefit from being reminded of the truths you listed in #6 above? Is there any way you could be part of that process this week? Pray for them, and for your influence in their life.