

Matthew 26:14-25

Is it I, Lord?

The betrayer ...

I. In the Background

A. That Notorious Name

B. Awaits His Moment

II. At the Table

A. A Passover Evening

B. A Shocking Revelation

III. One of the Twelve

A. "Is it I?"

B. As it is Written

... a grim epithet.

Children, Listen ...

1. What does it mean to betray someone?
2. What were Jesus' 12 close followers called?
3. Which one of the 12 betrayed Jesus?
4. Was Jesus surprised by this at all?

Is it I?

I received a couple good title suggestions for this week's message: "You Think You Know Someone" and "30 Pieces of Silver Buys a Ticket to Hell." I really like them, but I decided to stick to "Is It I" because it brings a personal touch, granted a touch we may not like that much. Judas Iscariot is unquestionably one of the most notoriously sinister villains of all time. While his actions must fit into God's design for redemption through Christ's crucifixion, he is fully responsible for his evil actions as a mercenary for the Kingdom of Darkness. He is a case-study in depravity. But such a case study should spur us on to study ourselves, and ask ourselves some hard questions about our motives, commitments and the value we place on our own relationship with Jesus. In essence asking the apostolic inquiry "Is it I." If anything is revealed in us that resembles anything close to a Judas kiss, we need to repent and put such insidious passions to death as such things unchecked guarantee a deadly course.