

Following the Real Jesus: Jesus Abandoned

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Saturday, March 13, 2021

Luke 22:21-24, 28-34, 47-48;

Matthew 26:22, 50

Jesus is on a mission: Jesus abandoned

Abandon: To cease to support or look after (someone);

²¹ “But one of you will turn against me, and his hand is with mine on the table. ²² What God has planned for the Son of Man will happen, but how terrible it will be for that one who turns against the Son of Man.” Luke 22:21–22

²³ Then the apostles asked each other which one of them would do that. Luke 22:23

²² Each one began to say to Jesus, “Surely, Lord, I am not the one who will turn against you, am I?” Matthew 26:22

Every disciple is aware that they could betray Jesus. Which means Judas’ sin was ordinary.

Judas is demonstrating that he followed Jesus for what he got from Jesus. Judas was managing God, not serving him.

Do you believe and act like God owes you or that God owns you?

We are all tempted to manage God for his blessings. We are all tempted to bail on God when we don’t get what we feel like we deserve.

We believe our emotions are true. We don’t like a required change, so we label it as wrong.

⁴⁷ He came close to Jesus so he could kiss him. ⁴⁸ But Jesus said to him, “Judas, are you using the kiss to give the Son of Man to his enemies?” Luke 22:47–48

⁵⁰ Jesus answered, “Friend, do what you came to do.” Then the people came and grabbed Jesus and arrested him. Matthew 26:50

Jesus calls Judas, “friend”. “Do you betray me with a kiss”?

Betrayal with a kiss is the sin of the insider not the outsider.

²⁴ The apostles also began to argue about which one of them was the most important. Luke 22:24

²⁸ “You have stayed with me through my struggles. ²⁹ Just as my Father has given me a kingdom, I also give you a kingdom ³⁰ so you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom. And you will sit on thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. Luke 22:28–30

Jesus is looking ahead, passed being abandoned. He is looking forward to when all his friends are restored.

³¹ “Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to test all of you as a farmer sifts his wheat. ³² I have prayed that you will not lose your faith! Help your brothers be stronger when you come back to me.” Luke 22:31–32

Jesus is encouraging Peter to return before he abandons him.

³³ But Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and even to die with you!”
³⁴ But Jesus said, “Peter, before the rooster crows this day, you will say three times that you don’t know me.” Luke 22:33-34

Sin of overconfidence: When in doubt argue, deny, justify, excuse, blame--whatever you do, don’t repent.

Peter comes back, he repents. He owns it and accepts it.

This is the gospel. This is Peter’s story to tell of how great God’s forgiveness is. Peter’s story ends with him being abandoned to Jesus.