

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

TRUTH & LIES

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PART 3: PARTNERING WITH THE DEVIL

Jesus promised to never leave or forsake us and gave several prophetic warnings as the time of the Antichrist began to unfold. One of the projected warnings was that Christians would betray one another in the end times. **Matthew 24:10**

THE APOSTLE JUDAS ISCARIOT

It is difficult to understand why Jesus selected Judas Iscariot to be one of his apostles when He knew before the foundation of this world that Judas would betray Him and yet Jesus still selected him anyway. **John 6:70-71**

The only logical explanation for Jesus' action can be traced back to the trial of Lucifer when he was sentenced to the Lake of Fire and his accusation that God was unjust.

In order to show beyond reasonable doubt that God is impartial and Lucifer was getting what he deserved, Lucifer's was given a stay of execution and granted access to the Garden of Eden in order to tempt Adam and Eve. **Genesis 3:1-7**

In like manner, Lucifer was also given the opportunity to tempt Jesus for a period of 40 days when He was fasting. **Luke 4:1-13**

Jesus allowed Judas Iscariot to become part of inner circle of His followers even though He knew that Judas would betray Him. It must have been a temptation for Jesus to remove Judas from the inner circle.

WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT JUDAS ISCARIOT?

The Bible does not provide any background on Judas Iscariot and the first time he is mentioned is when Jesus selected the twelve disciples. **Matthew 10:1-4**

Judas Iscariot was given the same power as the other eleven and was sent out to preach, heal and cast out demons. **verse 5-8**

Judas blended with the others and saw the power that Jesus displayed. **Mark 3:13-19**

Jesus did not have a secular job during his 3.5 years of ministry and was financed entirely by free will offerings of the people. Judas Iscariot was appointed the treasurer and he received the love offerings and also handed out money when it was needed to purchase food for Jesus and His entourage. **John 12:1-6; 4:8**

THE KABBALISTIC JEWISH MESSIANIC TEACHING

There were several different Jewish political factions at the time of Christ which affected the teaching ministry of Jesus.

1. There was a Jewish priestly group that was headed up by the high priest. **Matthew 26:3-4**
2. The Sadducees were a political party who cooperated with the Roman occupational government.



3. The Pharisees were conservative in their religious and political activities.
4. The Essenes existed mostly outside Jerusalem and tended to live in closed off areas to preserve their peculiar system of Judaism.
5. The Kabbalistic party had a theological group governing a violent group of men known as the Zealots, who were hell bent on driving out the Roman army from Israel. This group was responsible for the revolt against Rome that took place between 67-70 A.D., when the Romans crushed the rebellion and destroyed Jerusalem and the temple.

There were two more Jewish uprisings against the Romans, the first one between 115-117 A.D. and the second one between 132-135 A.D.

6. The Publicans were Roman tax collectors and not a political party.

Jesus was well aware of the different political factions and mentioned the Zealots. **Matthew 11:12**

The Kabbalistic leadership recognized the supernatural powers which Jesus displayed and was able to transfer to his disciples and formed a plot to capture Jesus by force and make Him the king of Israel. **John 6:14-15**

It is interesting that Jesus selected a man from the Zealots by the name of Simon. **Luke 6:15**

THE THINKING OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE

With the exception of the Sadducees and the Publicans, all the Jews wanted to drive out the Romans from the land of Israel and re-establish the kingdom of Israel as it existed during the time of King David and King Solomon.

The Pharisees and Essenes believed that God would send a Messiah who would be endowed with supernatural power, would drive out the Romans, and set up a kingdom of Israel that would rule the entire world.

- A. They did not believe that the Messiah would be God incarnate. This was a concept not believed by the Jewish priestly leadership, the Pharisees and the Essenes; instead, they believed that the supernatural Messiah would never die and that he would set up an eternal kingdom of Israel on earth.

This is why most of the Jews rejected Jesus when He began to teach that He was the Son of God and that He was God incarnate. **John 6:57-66; 8:39-59**

- B. The Kabbalistic Jews believed that the messiah would be a divine essence that would reside in a Jewish man. This would make him immortal and he would defeat all nations and set up the kingdom of Israel to rule the whole world with his supernatural strength. In order to speed things up, they were to take up arms and lay the groundwork for the messiah. At the same time they were to lead the people in sin in order to speed up the coming of the messiah. This was not a new concept, but one that dated back hundreds of years and the prophet Isaiah received a prophetic word from the Lord condemning this teaching. **Isaiah 5:13-20**

C. The Jewish people did not believe there was any redemption for Gentiles. The messiah would be for the twelve tribes of Israel only. The messiah would be powerful and could not be defeated, let alone be killed. The Jewish idea of utopia was an everlasting kingdom on earth for the 12 tribes of Israel, and the Israelites who had died beforehand would be resurrected to live on earth again in this kingdom.

The twelve disciples were clearly of this mindset because they were excited when they found Jesus. **John 1:32-49; Acts 1:4-7**

There was a vehement rebuttal from Peter when Jesus began to share how He had to die for the sins of the world. **Matthew 16:21-23**

When Jesus was arrested by the high priest's militia, all the men that had been with Jesus lost hope and fled in fear and despair. They felt they had been deceived about Jesus being the Messiah because their messiah was not supposed to suffer defeat. **Matthew 26:55-56**

THE MINDSET OF JUDAS ISCARIOT

Judas held the common belief system of the Jews. He was waiting for the coming Messiah and for the Romans to be ousted from Israel. According to Jesus, Judas never accepted Jesus as his Savior and atonement from sin. **John 6:64-71**

Judas was not obedient to God's commandments and this was the reason that he became a thief and stole money from Jesus.

Judas accepted the teachings of the Kabbalistic Jews that the messiah must be immortal. He cast out demons, preached repentance from sin even though he never repented himself, healed the sick and had experienced divine power flowing through him. But he was not walking in truth and was blinded. **Matthew 13:13-15**

It was Satan who convinced Judas to force the hand of Jesus and make Him come out openly as the Jewish messiah. **John 13:2, 27; Luke 22:3**

Jesus stated that it would have been better for Judas to never have been born. **Matthew 26:24**

Judas contracted with chief priests to betray Jesus for 30 silver coins since they didn't dare arrest him during daylight hours. Judas was not motivated by money since 30 silver coins was only equal to four months wages for a skilled laborer. **Matthew 26:14-16; Luke 22:1-6**

Judas was operating under the expectation that Jesus would display His supernatural power the moment He was arrested and announce that He was the Messiah. Imagine the horror of Judas when Jesus did not resist arrest and was condemned to die on a cross.

When Judas realized that Jesus would die, he must have thought back to the memories of the previous 3.5 years. Jesus had healed so many people, cast out demons from those who were tormented and now this innocent man was going to die a slow and painful death on a cross because of his treachery.

Judas felt condemned that he had betrayed a man that had done nothing but good. The myth of the messiah he had been told was not true; he had been misled and felt that there was nothing more for which to live. **Matthew 27:3-8**

Judas essentially betrayed Jesus because he had believed a lie!

The apostle Peter denied Jesus three times out of fear of losing his life. **Matthew 26:69-75**

Judas was spiritually blinded and was not given the gift of repentance. **John 6:65**

Peter was spiritually blinded by fear but was given the gift of repentance. **Mark 16:7**

SUMMARY

Jesus warned us that Christians will betray one another toward the end times. He also told us that our worst enemies will be those from our own families. **Matthew 24:8-12; 10:16-22; 32-36**

Jesus is our protection. **John 10:27-30**

The Holy Spirit will guide us into all truth when we ask for it. **John 16:13-15**

The old lie that Judas Iscariot believed is still being repeated today when you are told that God established the current state of Israel in 1948, when in fact the opposite is true. It was Satan that established the state of Israel in 1948 through lies and murder. (For more information see the series, "Biblical Truth Concerning the State of Israel." The entire series is available free of charge. www.eaec.org/bookstore/btci.htm)

Jesus will establish the kingdom of Israel when He comes back a second time to set up the thousand year kingdom on earth.

Are you following in the footsteps of Judas Iscariot or Jesus?

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

Do you have an ear to hear with?