

Judas Discussion

Remember that these monologues are essentially historical fiction, based on the Scripture but filling in plausible subjective details, both emotional responses and motivations. Your first task is to decide if they are reasonable.

Do we tend to think of Judas as completely different from ourselves, for instance, as totally evil?

What are some clues that his motivations may have been more complex than that?

Why was he immediately sorry when Jesus was condemned? Why did he give the money back?

Is it possible he thought that by giving back the money he could get Jesus released?

Why did he commit suicide?

Is it possible that being dedicated to a cause made it possible for him to miss Jesus' message despite three years of teaching and close fellowship?

Matthew 10:8 Jesus sent out the twelve, including Judas to "Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons." How could he have missed the point?

How does stereotyping Judas keep us from learning from his life?

How might we be deflected from God's plan by focusing on our own goals?

What is the solution to preventing that?

Scripture does not tell us everything we might want to know about Judas, but his story is recorded for our benefit. Many lives are recorded, whether as a good examples, bad examples or mixed examples. What is the significance of John 13:27 "As soon as Judas took the bread, Satan entered into him."

What is the relationship between Satan and sin?

Might it have been possible for Judas to repent?

What is the lie that Satan used to keep him from doing that?

Is there any sin that God cannot forgive?

If Judas were a zealot, what would he be expecting from a Messiah?

What were the Pharisees expecting from the Messiah?

What are "some people" expecting from Jesus that makes them miss the point?

*What are WE expecting that might make **us** miss the point?*

Is it possible to "grow the church" with a totally secular view of the process and goal?