

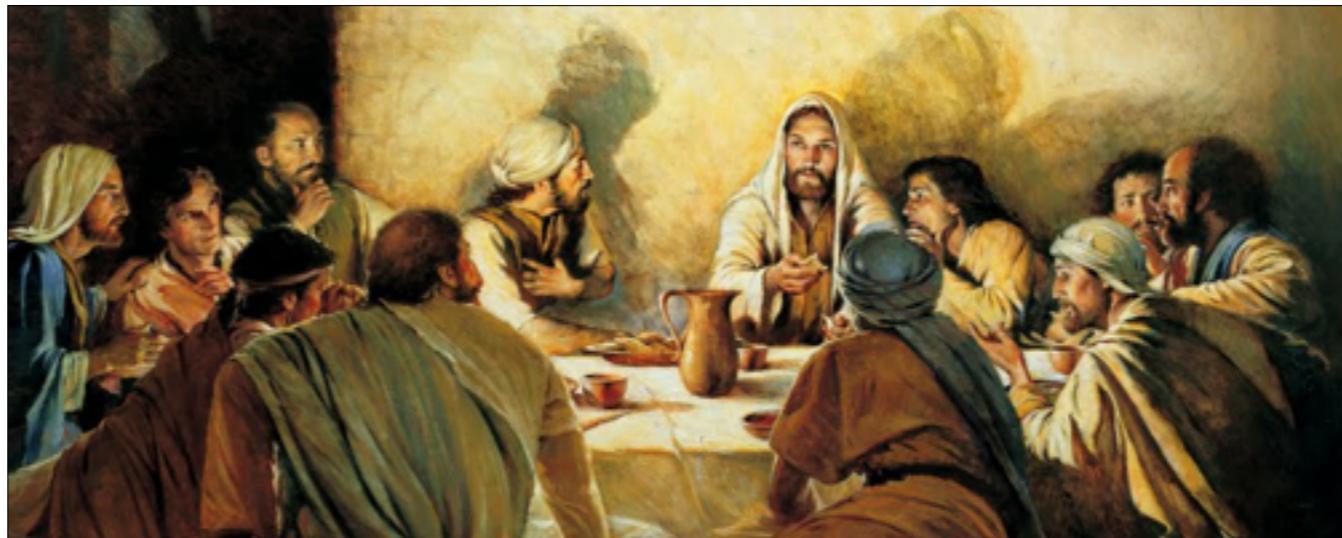


Leadership Through Discipleship

Learning to Lead
by Living to Follow

Terry R. Baughman
Lead Pastor





“Now the names of the twelve apostles are these: first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Lebbaeus, whose surname was Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananite, and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed Him.
—Matthew 10:2-4

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**A Leader
becomes a Loser**
JUDAS
The Power of a Negative Example

September 6, 2015
Terry R. Baughman, Lead Pastor



LifeChurch
www.LifeChurchAZ.net

A leader becomes a loser. Leadership is only possible through continued discipleship. When a disciple becomes a devil he loses the potential for positive leadership, but he can still be a teacher, a role model of a bad example.

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Judas

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What can we learn from a loser?

Name association

- Benedict Arnold → American Traitor
- Adolph Hitler → German Dictator
- Joseph Stalin → Russian Revolutionary
- Saddam Hussein → Brutal Iraqi murderer
- Judas Iscariot → Betrayed Jesus



What does the name Benedict Arnold mean to you? How about the name Adolph Hitler? How about Saddam Hussein? Now, how about Judas Iscariot? Names of history carry meaning. We associate their misdeeds with their reputation and character long after they are gone. The negative actions of an evil doer overshadows any positive characteristics of a life when it is past. Arnold is the traitor, Hitler is a dictator, Hussein is a brutal murderer, and Judas betrayed Jesus.



The One who betrayed Jesus

- Matthew 10:4 Simon the Canaanite, and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed Him.
- Mark 3:19 and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed Him. And they went into a house.
- Luke 6:16 Judas the son of James, and Judas Iscariot who also became a traitor.
- John 12: 4 Then one of His disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, who would betray Him, ...

The one who betrayed Jesus

Judas was once a chosen disciple, a trusted accomplice, and the secretary of the apostles. Listed among the twelve, he was chosen among all his peers to become a disciple of the Messiah. But in the eternal record of the Gospel writers he is identified as Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed Jesus.

- Matthew 10:4 - "who also betrayed Him"
- Mark 3:19 - "who also betrayed Him"
- Luke. 6:16 - "who also became a traitor"
- John 12: 3 - "Simon's son, who would betray Him"

- One crucial mistake can negate a lifetime of service. Leaders will more likely be remembered for a public failure than for many successes.

- Jimmy Swaggart
- OJ Simpson
- Bill Clinton
- Barry Bonds
- Tiger Woods
- Bruce Jenner



Whatever good he accomplished in life would be forever diminished in the shadows of his transgression. He joined the ranks of the negative role models – this is what not to be like.

One crucial mistake can negate a lifetime of service. Leaders will more likely be remembered for a colossal failure than for many successes.

You can probably recall several famous people that will be remembered for their failings more than for their accomplishments. All will make mistakes and we can learn from them. Many failures can be forgiven, even if not forgotten. However, there are some mistakes that will forever cloud the memories of others and leave a permanent shadow of suspicion or blame.

- Jimmy Swaggart – “disgraced preacher” Television evangelist
- O.J. Simpson – “murder” Football star
- Bill Clinton – “Monica Lewinsky” President
- Barry Bonds – “Steroids” (What about the home-run record?)
- Tiger Woods – Golfer – “sex scandal”
- Bruce (Kaitlyn) Jenner – Probably won't be remembered for the Olympics

—



The One who had the box

- John 12:3-5 — Then Mary took a pound of very costly oil of spikenard, anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped His feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the oil.
- Then one of His disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, who would betray Him, said, "Why was this fragrant oil not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?"

The one who had the box.

Judas carried the money box, tended the finances and distributed to the needs of others. What was intended to be a blessing became a curse. His own greed was illustrated in the rebuke to Mary who bathed the feet of Jesus with a precious ointment. "Why was this fragrant oil not sold ... and given to the poor?" he exploded.

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The One who had the box



- John 12:6-7 — This he said, not that he cared for the poor, but because he was a thief, and had the money box; and he used to take what was put in it.
- But Jesus said, "Let her alone; she has kept this for the day of My burial."

—John revealed his spirit for what it was with an explanation, “This he said, not that he cared for the poor, but because he was a thief, and had the money box; and he used to take what was put in it” (John 12:6–7).



The One who had the box

- John 13:25-27 Then, leaning back on Jesus' breast, he said to Him, "Lord, who is it?"
- Jesus answered, "It is he to whom I shall give a piece of bread when I have dipped *it*." And having dipped the bread, He gave *it* to **Judas Iscariot, *the son* of Simon.**
- Now after the piece of bread, Satan entered him. Then Jesus said to him, "What you do, do quickly."

Another mention of "the money box" was at the last supper. When Jesus spoke to Judas, it was assumed that he was going out to buy something for their gathering.

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The One who had the box



- John 13:28-30 — But no one at the table knew for what reason He said this to him.
- 29 For some thought, because **Judas** had the money box, that Jesus had said to him, "Buy *those things* we need for the feast," or that he should give something to the poor.
- 30 Having received the piece of bread, he then went out immediately. And it was night.

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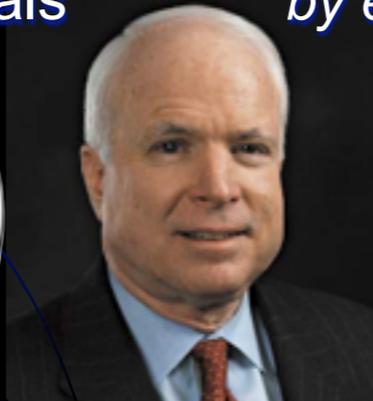
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- Positions of trust and responsibility require increased accountability. If character is lost, so is the ability to lead.

- Clergy / ministry
- Public servants
- Elected Leaders
- Professionals

Ethics and Integrity should be a way of life for every disciple of Christ. We must lead by example.



Positions of trust and responsibility require increased accountability. If character is lost, so is the ability to lead.

Ethics and integrity are essential to a discipleship leader. Some secular positions may not require the level of morality that is expected of spiritual leadership. Even some public offices carry a higher level expectation than a business executive.



The One who was a devil

- Luke 22:3 Then Satan entered Judas, surnamed **Iscariot**, who was numbered among the twelve.
- John 6:70 Jesus answered them, "Did I not choose you, the twelve, and one of you is a devil?"
- Acts 1:25 "to take part in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place."
 - **Also see John 13:2; 26-27**

The one who was a devil.

The leader became a loser. Judas lost his ministry. He lost his place among the apostles (Acts 1:25). His name is forever removed from the foundations of the Holy City and ranks among high on the litany of the most infamous names of history. The disciple became a devil, "Satan entered Judas, surnamed **Iscariot**, who was numbered among the twelve" (Luke 22:3). Even Jesus said, "Did I not choose you, the twelve, and one of you is a devil?" (John 6:70). What the Bible says:

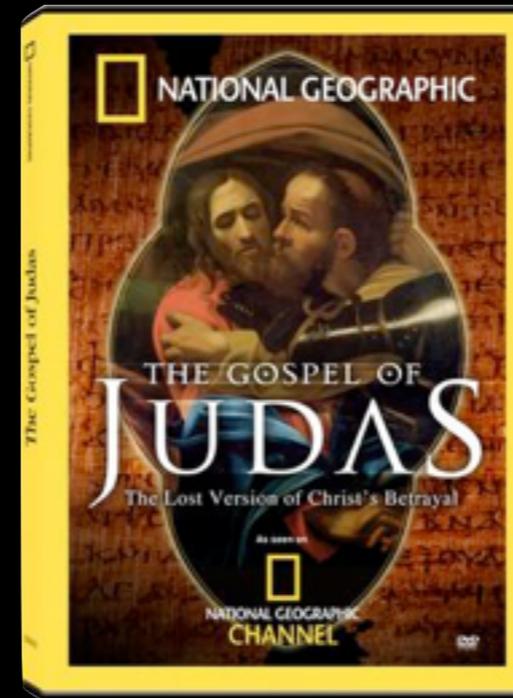
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The Gospel of Judas

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- Attempt to cast Judas in a better light. Likely a gnostic invention.
- Promoted in 2006



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- 4th century Coptic Gospel of Judas discovered in Egypt in the 1970's
 - Translated and released to the public with a big splash in April 06.
 - Attempts to paint him in a better light.

“The Gospel of Judas, a papyrus document from the 3rd or 4th Century AD, casts the fallen disciple as a benevolent figure, helping Jesus to save mankind. The early Christian Church denounced such teachings as heretical. The 31-page fragile document, alleged to be a copy of an even older text, was discovered in Egypt in the 1970s.” (<http://news.bbc.co.uk/go/pr/fr/-/2/hi/americas/4882420.stm>. Published: 2006/04/07 09:42)

The Book (gospel) of Judas, discovered in Egypt in the 1970s, has now been translated and published with much fanfare. The book makes out Judas to be a benevolent disciple helping Jesus to accomplish His goal of saving mankind. What does the Bible say about Judas?



The One who was a devil

- Jesus identified Judas as the “son of perdition.”
— John 17:12 While I was with them in the world, I kept them in Your name. Those whom You gave Me I have kept; and none of them is lost except the **son of perdition**, that the Scripture might be fulfilled.

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Paul relates the “son of perdition” to the man of sin or the antichrist.

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- Everyone has a choice of masters: God or riches, righteousness or evil. Even disciples face the temptation of evil that will forfeit their calling and negate their purpose.

Matthew 6:24 " No one can serve **two masters**; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.

Matthew 6:13 And do not lead us into temptation, But **deliver** us from the **evil** one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Everyone has a choice of masters: God or riches, righteousness or evil. Even disciples face the temptation of evil that will forfeit their calling and negate their purpose.

Jesus taught those choices to His disciples early in His ministry. Both from the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 6:24), and in His model prayer, "Do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one."

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The One who took His Life

The tragic end of a life of failure

- Acts 1:18-19 (Now this man purchased a field with the wages of iniquity; and falling headlong, he burst open in the middle and all his entrails gushed out.
- And it became known to all those dwelling in Jerusalem; so that field is called in their own language, Akel Dama, that is, Field of Blood.)

The one who took his life.

The end of his life.

It was the tragic end of a life of failure. Judas recognized that his greed had consumed him, attempted to return the money he had received to betray Jesus. The priests refused it. Judas threw the money at their feet and fled from the temple. The tragedy of a failed leader is revealed in the short terse words of Matthew 27:5, he "went and hanged himself."

A more graphic description is found in Acts 1:18-19:

(Now this man purchased a field with the wages of iniquity; and falling headlong, he burst open in the middle and all his entrails gushed out. And it became known to all those dwelling in Jerusalem; so that field is called in their own language, Akel Dama, that is, Field of Blood.)

Matthew 27:3 Then Judas, His betrayer, seeing that He had been condemned, was remorseful and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders,

4 saying, "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood." And they said, "What is that to us? You see to it!"

5 Then he threw down the pieces of silver in the temple and departed, and went and hanged himself.

6 But the chief priests took the silver pieces and said, "It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, because they are the price of blood."

7 And they consulted together and bought with them the potter's field, to bury strangers in.

8 Therefore that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day.

9 Then was fulfilled what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying, "And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the value of Him who was priced, whom they of the children of Israel priced,

10 "and gave them for the potter's field, as the LORD directed me."

- Most of the disciples gave their life for the cause. Judas took his own life when he betrayed the cause.
- Acts 5:41 - So they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name.

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Though all fled in fear when Jesus was arrested in the Garden, the loyal disciples, filled with the Holy Spirit found the strength to stand strong. Most of them would die a martyr's death. They rejoiced "that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name" (Acts 5:41).

NKJ Acts 5:41 So they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name.

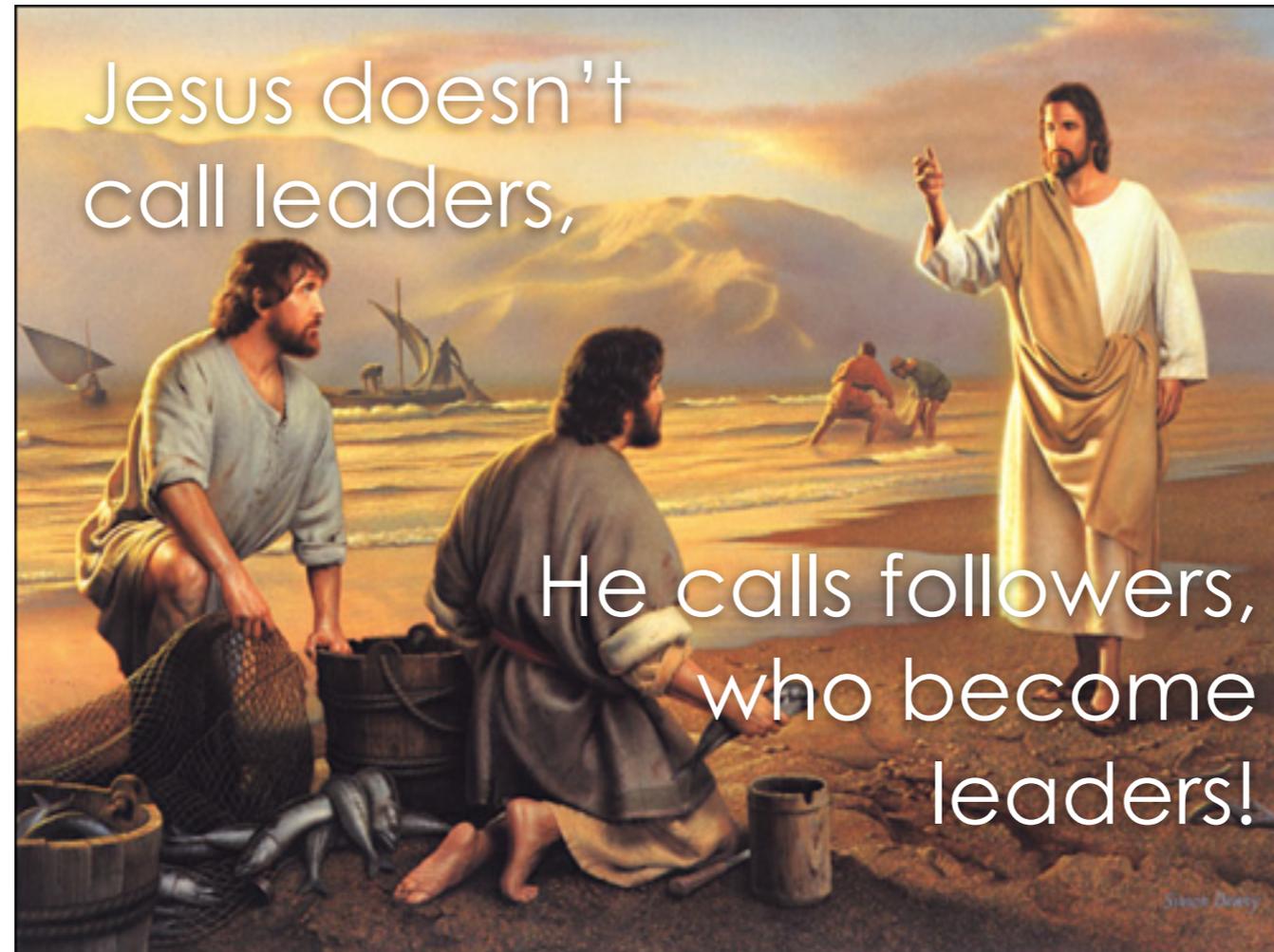
The Lesson of Judas

- ➔ How will you live your life?
- ➔ Do you have a cause worth living for?
- ➔ A cause worth dying for?
- ➔ Why not live it with purpose?

How will you live your life? Do you have a cause worth living for?
Worth dying for?

Either way we die. Why not live it with purpose!

Every leader has a choice. Become a disciple and submit to the leadership of the Lord or pursue your own passion and betray your calling and ministry. God-called leaders can only lead as they follow. Leadership is only possible through continued discipleship. Learn from the loser. Don't lose your leadership by following the example of Judas!



Jesus doesn't call leaders,
He calls followers,
who become
leaders!



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