

John 289

“Surely You Don’t Mean Me, Rabbi” Judas Iscariot’s assets and opportunities [his abilities] and choices demonstrating [his liabilities]

John 18:2-4; John 13:21-30; Matthew 27:3-10

The complete control of our Lord is highlighted by John as Jesus undergoes these events.

John provides many details not found in Matthew, Mark or Luke.

John emphasizes the fact that the Jewish leadership played a much more important role in the death of Jesus than the Romans did.

Judas was the group’s treasurer having charge of its purse-strings which he regularly dipped into for his own use and as a pious cover, he challenged Mary’s anointing of Jesus’ feet when in John 12:5, he asked “Why wasn’t this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year’s wages.” And once again, John gives us his descriptive narrative in John 12:6 “He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it.”

For three years Judas played his part so well that in spite of his constant thievery, not one of his fellow disciples suspected him; so much so that they figured he had every right to sit near Jesus like John did.

Each disciple apparently thought himself more likely to be the traitor than lofty and oh so crafty, Judas Iscariot.

The Lord Jesus made every effort to prove to Judas that although He knew all that would soon transpire, He loved him still, even to the end!

Post-salvation sin recovery doesn’t require feeling sorry for sins although we often do; it requires just naming them, isolating them, forgetting them and then moving on from them.

Many believers today would say: “If you sin, admit it, be sincere about it and be certain to emotionally feel sorry for it and then just to be sure that you mean it, make restitution for it.”

But wait a minute, Judas did all of the above and isn’t he in Hell as we speak?

Judea is a Roman province and the Temple Guard is heavily armed but it has no jurisdiction or power of arrest in this case other than to aid another qualified agency, the Roman army.