

6/15/14

SERIES: LUKE: THE SON OF MAN, THE SAVIOR
HAS COME, WEEK 39

TITLE: **ALL THE KING'S MEN, PART VII**

TEXT: LUKE 6:16B

INTRODUCTION: (1) HERE AT FAITH BIBLE, WE
ARE COMMITTED TO THE BIBLICAL TRUTH THAT
SALVATION IS FOREVER.

* MEANING THAT ONCE A PERSON HAS TRULY
BEEN SAVED, ONCE A PERSON IS IN CHRIST, HE
OR SHE CAN NEVER BE SEPARATED FROM
CHRIST OR LOSE THEIR SALVATION.

** NOW CONTEMPORARY CHRISTIANS HAVE
COME TO REFER TO THIS AS THE DOCTRINE OF
ETERNAL SECURITY, AND WE USE THAT
TERMINOLOGY IN PARENTHESIS IN OUR
STATEMENT OF FAITH.

*** THE REASON BEING THE PURITANS TERMINOLOGY IS MUCH CLEARER, ESPECIALLY IN OUR DAY OF FALSE PROFESSIONS OF FAITH, FOR THEY SPOKE OF THE TRUTH OF ETERNAL SECURITY AS THE PERSEVERANCE OF THE SAINTS, WHICH IS WHAT OUR STATEMENT OF FAITH SAYS, AGAIN, WITH ETERNAL SECURITY UNDER IT IN PARENTHESIS.

**** THE POINT BEING, NOT THAT GOD GUARANTEES SECURITY TO EVERYONE WHO PROFESSES FAITH IN CHRIST, BUT RATHER THAT THOSE WHOSE FAITH IS GENUINE WILL PROVE THEIR SALVATION IS SECURE BY PERSEVERING TO THE END IN THE WAY OF RIGHTEOUSNESS.

1. IN OTHER WORDS, TRUE BELIEVERS WILL **PERSEVERE BY GOD'S GRACE THAT SAVED THEM** TO BEGIN WITH AND IF A PERSON TURNS AGAINST CHRIST, FORSAKES CHRIST, AND LIVES IN SIN AS THE NORM OF HIS OR HER LIFE, IT IS PROOF THAT THAT PERSON WAS NEVER SAVED.

* NOW THE PERFECT ILLUSTRATION OF THAT IS THE APOSTLE WE ARE STUDYING TODAY, JUDAS ISCARIOT. JUDAS IS A PRIME EXAMPLE OF A PROFESSING BELIEVER, WHO OUTWARDLY SAID "LORD LORD," AND DID MANY QUOTE WONDERFUL WORKS, WHO NEVER TRULY KNEW CHRIST AND IN THE END FORSOOK HIM AND SOLD HIM OUT.

** YET FOR 3 YEARS HE FOLLOWED THE LORD WITH THE OTHER DISCIPLES. HE APPEARED TO BE ONE OF THEM, AT LEAST THE OTHER 11 THOUGHT THAT.

*** HE HAD THE SAME STATUS AS THE OTHER 11, IT APPEARS THE SAME POWER AS HE WAS SENT OUT TO DO MIRACLE WORKS.

**** YET, WHILE THE 11 WERE GROWING INTO TRUE APOSTLES, JUDAS WAS QUIETLY BECOMING A VILE, CALCULATING TOOL OF SATAN.

2. WHATEVER HIS CHARACTER SEEMED TO BE AT THE BEGINNING, THE TRUTH OF HIS LACK OF TRULY KNOWING CHRIST CAME OUT IN THE END, BECAUSE HE HAD NEVER TRULY BEEN SAVED, SO HE WOULD NOT PERSEVERE.

* JESUS SAID AS HE WAS WASHING THE DISCIPLES FEET, INCLUDING JUDAS, IN JOHN **13:10&11: "HE WHO HAS BATHED NEEDS ONLY TO WASH HIS FEET, BUT IS COMPLETELY CLEAN; AND YOU ARE CLEAN, BUT NOT ALL OF YOU."** FOR HE KNEW THE ONE WHO WAS BETRAYING **HIM; FOR THIS REASON HE SAID, "NOT ALL OF YOU ARE CLEAN."** (NOT ALL OF THEM HAD BEEN CLEANSED)

** NOW BELOVED WHAT JESUS SAID HERE, TAKES PLACE BEFORE JUDAS ACTUALLY BETRAYED CHRIST, AND MY POINT IS HE WAS UNREGENERATE, HE NEVER HAD THE BATH OF SALVATION.

*** AND IN THE END WHEN HIS TRUE COLORS CAME OUT, HE WAS SO PREPARED TO DO **SATAN'S BIDDING THAT THE DEVIL HIMSELF** POSSESSED JUDAS ACCORDING TO JOHN 13:27.

**** JUDAS WAS SO SKILLED AT HYPOCRISY THAT HE STAYED ON THE INSIDE RIGHT UP TO THE VERY END.

3. AGAIN, HE IS THE PERFECT ILLUSTRATION OF A HYPOCRITE, AN APOSTATE, A TARE AMONG THE WHEAT, A GOAT IN THE MIDST OF SHEEP, ONE WHO IS TALKED ABOUT IN MATTHEW 7:21-23 (QUOTE THEM).

* NOW JUDAS DID NOT DO THE WILL OF GOD THE FATHER, HE DID THE WILL OF SATAN HIS FATHER.

** AND TODAY AS WE FINALLY FINISH OUR STUDY OF ALL THE KING'S **MEN IN** LUKE 6:12-16, **WE'LL LOOK AT JUDAS ISCARIOT, THE ONE IN MATTHEW, MARK AND LUKE'S LIST OF APOSTLES WHO IS ALWAYS MENTIONED LAST AND AS THE ONE WHO BETRAYED THE LORD.**

*** AND I BELIEVE THIS MAN CAN TEACH US SOME PROFOUND AND AWAKENING LESSONS, **SO WE'LL EXAMINE WHAT THE SCRIPTURES** HAVE TO SAY ABOUT HIM BY LOOKING AT 5 THINGS.

4. HIS NAME, HIS CALL, HIS DESIRE, HIS BETRAYAL AND HIS DEATH.

* AND WITH THAT OUTLINE IN MIND, LOOK BACK AT LUKE 6:16 **WHERE WE'LL START TO LOOK AT** OUR FIRST THOUGHT TODAY, HIS NAME.

I. HIS NAME, (READ LUKE 6:16)

A. NOW THE NAME JUDAS WAS A COMMON NAME IN N.T. TIMES AND WAS THE NAME OF ANOTHER APOSTLE HERE IN V. 16, JUDAS, THE SON OF JAMES AS WE LOOKED AT HIM LAST WEEK.

* NOW THE NAME JUDAS IS A PERSONALIZED FORM OF JUDAH, THE SOUTHERN KINGDOM DURING THE JEWISH MONARCHY AND THE ROMAN PROVINCE OF JUDEA DURING THE TIME OF CHRIST.

** AND SOME SCHOLARS BELIEVE THE NAME JUDAS MEANS "JEHOVAH LEADS," AND OTHERS BELIEVE IT REFERS TO ONE WHO IS "THE OBJECT OF PRAISE."

*** YET WITH EITHER MEANING, IT WAS A TRAGIC MISNOMER IN THE CASE OF JUDAS ISCARIOT, FOR NO HUMAN BEING HAS EVER BEEN LESS DIRECTED BY THE LORD OR LESS WORTHY OF PRAISE.

**** AND FOR ALMOST 2000 YEARS NOW, THE NAME JUDAS HAS BECOME A BYWORD FOR BETRAYAL, A NAME SO DESPISED THAT HARDLY **ANYBODY HAS THAT NAME. (I MEAN I DON'T KNOW OF ONE PERSON NAMED JUDAS. IT'S CERTAINLY RARE AT BEST).**

1. NOW JUDAS' LAST NAME GIVEN IN LUKE 6:16, ISCARIOT COMES FROM A COMBINATION OF THE HEBREW TERM ISH WHICH MEANS "MAN", AND KERIOTH, A SMALL TOWN IN JUDEA, ABOUT 23 MILES SOUTH OF JERUSALEM AND SOME 7 MILES FROM HEBRON.

* SO ISCARIOT LIT. MEANS A MAN FROM THE **TOWN OF KERIOTH AND IT'S SIMPLY A GEOGRAPHICAL IDENTIFICATION.**

** AND ITS INTERESTING JUDAS WAS THE ONLY APOSTLE WHOSE NAME INCLUDES A GEOGRAPHICAL IDENTIFICATION, POSSIBLY BECAUSE HE WAS THE ONLY JUDEAN AMONG THE 12, THE ONLY JUDEAN JEW.

*** ALL THE OTHERS, INCLUDING JESUS, WERE FROM GALILEE IN THE NORTH. AND WE ARE TOLD THAT SOUTHERN JEWS FROM JUDEA AT THAT TIME USUALLY FELT THEMSELVES GREATLY SUPERIOR OVER THE RURAL JEWS OF GALILEE, SO JUDAS MIGHT HAVE LOOKED DOWN ON THE OTHER APOSTLES AND POSSIBLY DID NOT FIT WELL INTO THE APOSTOLIC BAND.

**** BUT REGARDLESS THE NAME JUDAS ISCARIOT HAS BECOME A BYWORD FOR TREACHERY AND BETRAYAL, FOR AFTER HIS NAME IS GIVEN IN LUKE 6:16, THE PHRASE, **"WHO BECAME A TRAITOR"** FOLLOWS.

2. AND 40 VERSES IN THE N.T. MENTION THE BETRAYAL OF JESUS, AND EACH OF THEM IS A **REMINDER OF JUDAS' INCREDIBLE SIN.**

* AND NOTE THAT AFTER THE DESCRIPTION OF HIS DEATH AND HIS REPLACEMENT AMONG THE 12 IN ACTS 1, HIS NAME IS NEVER AGAIN MENTIONED IN SCRIPTURE.

** AND IN A SIDE NOTE, **IN DANTE'S INFERNO** JUDAS OCCUPIES THE LOWEST LEVEL OF HELL, WHICH HE SHARES WITH LUCIFER, SATAN HIMSELF.

*** AND ALTHOUGH SATAN IS NOT IN HELL YET, IT MAY BE THAT HE AND JUDAS WILL TOGETHER OCCUPY THE LOWEST LEVEL OF IT. JESUS SAID OF JUDAS IN MATTHEW **26:24**: **"WOE TO THAT MAN BY WHOM THE SON OF MAN IS BETRAYED, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN GOOD FOR THAT MAN IF HE HAD NOT BEEN BORN."**

**** SO THE TERRIBLE JUDGMENT THAT IS GOING ON NOW AND IS AHEAD FOR THE MAN WITH THE NAME JUDAS ISCARIOT IS BEYOND ANYTHING WE CAN IMAGINE. WHICH LEADS US TO OUR NEXT POINT TODAY, HIS CALL.

II. HIS CALL

A. NOW THE CALL OF JUDAS IN BECOMING AN APOSTLE IS NOT RECORDED IN THE BIBLE. THE **FIRST TIME HE'S MENTIONED IN THE GOSPELS IS** IN THE LIST OF APOSTLES IN MATTHEW 10:4.

* AND **WE DON'T KNOW HOW HE GOT INTO THE** GROUP, BUT WE DO KNOW THAT THE LORD CALLED HIM, **BUT WE DON'T KNOW ANY OF THE** CIRCUMSTANCES.

** BUT DEFINITELY THE LORD CALLED JUDAS ISCARIOT TO FULFILL THE DIVINE PURPOSE OF CALVARY. JUDAS WAS CALLED AND USED BY GOD TO FULFILL HIS PURPOSE AND PLAN OF CHRIST BEING CRUCIFIED AND DYING FOR THE SINS OF PEOPLE.

*** BUT JUDAS FREELY BY HIS OWN CHOICE BETRAYED CHRIST BECAUSE OF HIS LOVE FOR MONEY. JUDAS REJECTED CHRIST AS HIS LORD AND DESPERATELY WANTED TO GET SOMETHING FOR HIS TIME, 30 PIECES OF SILVER. **THAT'S WHAT JUDAS WANTED. HE WAS NOT COERCED TO BETRAY CHRIST.**

**** YET, JUDAS WAS FULFILLING THE VERY PLAN FREELY THAT GOD HAD ORDAINED. IN **FACT, DAVID PROPHESED CHRIST'S BETRAYAL A THOUSAND YEARS BEFORE THE FACT** IN PSALM 41:9, PSALM 55:12-15, 20-21. AND ALTHOUGH THAT PASSAGE PRIMARILY REFERRED TO DAVID, ITS GREATER SIGNIFICANCE APPLIED TO JESUS CHRIST, AS CHRIST DECLARED IN JOHN 13:18.

1. AND BEYOND THAT ZECHARIAH EVEN PROPHESED IN ZECHARIAH 11:12&13, THE **EXACT PRICE OF CHRIST'S BETRAYAL, 30 PIECES OF SILVER.**

* SO THE BETRAYAL BY JUDAS WAS NOT SOMETHING THAT JUST HAPPENED, IT WAS PURPOSED, IT WAS A PART OF THE PLAN OF GOD, BUT JUDAS FREELY BY HIS OWN SINFUL DESIRE FREELY DID WHAT GOD HAD ORDAINED SO HE WAS TOTALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS ACTIONS **AS UNSAVED MAN'S WILL IS IN BONDAGE TO SIN.**

** AND WHAT GOD SOVEREIGNLY DECREES IN ETERNITY, MAN WILL ALWAYS DEMAND IN TIME.

*** **IN OTHER WORDS, MAN'S QUOTE "FREE WILL" WILL ALWAYS FREELY CHOOSE THE VERY THING THAT GOD HAS SOVEREIGNLY ORDAINED AND GOD'S PURPOSE WILL BE FULFILLED;** JUST AS SURELY MAN WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS EVERY ACT OF SIN.

**** LET ME QUICKLY ILLUSTRATE. EXACTLY WHAT DID GOD ALMIGHTY ETERNALLY DECREE WOULD HAPPEN TO HIS SON? WELL, THAT HE WOULD BE CRUCIFIED! WITH THAT SAID, IN MATTHEW 27, WHAT DID THE CROWD BOLDLY DEMAND TO TAKE PLACE? THE CRUCIFIXION OF CHRIST.

2. ANOTHER QUESTION, WHAT IS THE ONLY THING THAT WILL SATISFY THE CHARACTER OF A HOLY GOD TO APPEASE HIS WRATH AND SAVE HIS ELECT? THE ANSWER, THE DEATH OF CHRIST, THE SHED BLOOD OF CHRIST.

* WHAT IS THE ONLY THING THAT WOULD SATISFY THE HATE AND PASSION OF THAT CROWD THAT WANTED JESUS DEAD? THE ANSWER, THE SHED BLOOD OF CHRIST.

** WHAT GOD SOVEREIGNLY ORDAINS IN ETERNITY, MAN WILL CHOOSE BY HIS OWN FREE WILL IN TIME.

*** AND AT THE LAST SUPPER JESUS SAID IN **LUKE 22:21&22**, "**BEHOLD, THE HAND OF THE** ONE BETRAYING ME IS WITH ME ON THE TABLE. FOR INDEED, THE SON OF MAN IS GOING AS IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED (WHAT GOD HAS ORDAINED) BUT WOE TO THAT MAN BY WHOM HE **IS BETRAYED.**" (THE RESPONSIBILITY OF MAN)

**** AND ALTHOUGH OUR FINITE HUMAN MINDS CANNOT UNDERSTAND IT, GOD HAD PREDETERMINED THE BETRAYAL, THOUGH, AT THE SAME TIME, JUDAS WAS HELD FULLY RESPONSIBLE FOR IT, BECAUSE IT WAS BY HIS OWN CHOICE.

***** SO JUDAS WAS CALLED AS AN APOSTLE, AND WAS USED BY GOD TO FULFILL HIS DIVINE PURPOSES, WHICH JUDAS FREELY AND WILLINGLY WANTED.

- WHICH LEADS US TO OUR THIRD POINT ABOUT JUDAS TODAY, HIS DESIRE.

III. HIS DESIRE

A. NOW THE DESIRE OF JUDAS WAS FILLED WITH GREED AND THE LOVE OF MONEY. HE WAS A MATERIALIST, WHICH LEADS TO THE QUESTION, THEN WHY DID HE FOLLOW JESUS AROUND FOR 3 YEARS?

* WELL, IN THE 3 YEARS THAT JUDAS WAS WITH JESUS, HE MUST HAVE THOUGHT THAT CHRIST WAS GOING TO TAKE OVER AT ANY MOMENT AND HE COULD BE ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF HIS RULE AS A MATERIAL KING.

** I MEAN HE KNEW THAT JESUS HAD THE POWER TO KNOCK OFF ROME, HE SAW JESUS PERFORM MIRACLE AFTER MIRACLE AFTER MIRACLE - PEOPLE WERE HEALED, THE BLIND COULD SEE, THE DEAF COULD HEAR, THE LAME COULD WALK, THE DUMB COULD TALK, PEOPLE WERE MIRACULOUSLY FED.

*** JUDAS SAW THE POWER IN ACTION, SO HE KNEW CHRIST HAD THE POWER TO BRING IN THE KINGDOM. AND BECAUSE HE WAS SO GREEDY, HE TENACIOUSLY HUNG IN THERE JUST WAITING FOR IT TO HAPPEN.

**** HOWEVER, THE INCIDENT THAT FINALLY DESTROYED **JUDAS' HOPE OF THAT WAS CHRIST'S TRIUMPHAL ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM.**

1. WHEN JUDAS SAW THE PEOPLE ACKNOWLEDGING JESUS AS KING HE MUST **HAVE THOUGHT, "THIS IS IT", "IT'S FINALLY GOING TO HAPPEN!!" CHA-CHING!**

* BUT INSTEAD OF USHERING IN THE KINGDOM, JESUS STARTED REFERRING TO HIS DEATH WITH **THE STATEMENT, "TRULY, TRULY, I SAY UNTO YOU, UNLESS A GRAIN OF WHEAT FALLS INTO THE EARTH AND DIES, IT REMAINS ALONE, BUT IF IT DIES, IT BEARS MUCH FRUIT."** JOHN 12:24

** NOW WHEN JUDAS HEARD THAT, IT WAS THE LAST STRAW. I THINK IT FINALLY BECAME CLEAR TO HIM THAT HE WAS NOT GOING TO GET RICH AND BE ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF **CHRIST'S RULE, SO HE DETERMINED TO CUT HIS LOSSES AND SELL CHRIST OUT.**

*** FOR YOU SEE HIS DESIRE, HIS TRUE HEART, WHICH HE DID A GOOD JOB OF GUARDING WAS UNMASKED IN JOHN 12. FOR JOHN 12:1-6 SAYS:

**** V. 1 - JESUS THEREFORE SIX DAYS BEFORE THE PASSOVER, (BEFORE HIS DEATH) CAME TO BETHANY WHERE LAZARUS WAS, WHOM HAD RAISED FROM THE DEAD.

V. 2 - SO THEY MADE HIM A SUPPER THERE; AND MARTHA WAS SERVING (AND THAT **CERTAINLY WAS MARTHA'S GIFT IN LUKE 10:38-42**); BUT LAZARUS WAS ONE OF THOSE RECLINING AT THE TABLE WITH HIM. (WHAT A SIGHT, THE ONE WHOM HAD BEEN RAISED FROM THE DEAD.)

V. 3 - MARY THEREFORE TOOK A POUND OF VERY COSTLY, GENUINE SPIKENARD-OINTMENT, AND ANOINTED THE FEET OF JESUS, AND WIPED HIS FEET WITH HER HAIR; AND THE HOUSE WAS FILLED WITH THE FRAGRANCE OF THE OINTMENT. (AN ACT OF WORSHIP AND LOVE)

V. 4 - BUT JUDAS ISCARIOT, ONE OF HIS DISCIPLES, WHO WAS INTENDING TO BETRAY HIM, SAID,

V. 5 - **"WHY WAS THIS OINTMENT NOT SOLD FOR THREE HUNDRED DENARII, AND GIVEN TO POOR PEOPLE?"**

V. 6 - NOW HE SAID THIS, (AN EDITORIAL REMARK BY JOHN) NOT BECAUSE HE WAS CONCERNED ABOUT THE POOR, BUT BECAUSE HE WAS A THIEF, AND AS HE HAD THE MONEY BOX, HE USED TO PILFER WHAT WAS PUT INTO IT.

2. NOW JUDAS DID NOT BECOME A THIEF AT THIS POINT, HE HAD BEEN ONE. FOR QUITE A WHILE, HE HAD BEEN PILFERING, STEALING MONEY ALL ALONG. HE WAS A MATERIALIST AND WAS WITH CHRIST FOR WHAT HE COULD GET OUT OF IT.

* **AND IT'S INTERESTING TO ME, THAT** CHRONOLOGICALLY THAT NIGHT, JUDAS LEFT BETHANY, INITIATED HIS FIRST FATAL INTERVIEW WITH THE CHIEF PRIESTS, AND NEGOTIATED TO BETRAY JESUS FOR 30 PIECES OF SILVER.

** AND THAT MEANS THAT THE SAME NIGHT THAT OUR LORD WAS ANOINTED OUT OF LOVE BY MARY, HE WAS BETRAYED OUT OF HATE BY JUDAS.

*** AND MAY I HASTEN TO ADD THAT IT IS STILL SO WITH EVERY PERSON. CHRIST IS EITHER ENTHRONED OR BETRAYED. PEOPLE EITHER POUR OUT THEIR LOVE TO HIM OR SELL HIM FOR WHATEVER PRICE THEY HAVE DEEMED PROPER.

**** JUDAS WAS FILLED WITH GREED AND THE LOVE OF MONEY AND BECAUSE OF THAT WAS A THIEF, WHICH LEADS US TO OUR 4TH POINT ABOUT JUDAS TODAY, HIS BETRAYAL.

IV. HIS BETRAYAL

A. NOW JUDAS DIDN'T ACT IN A MOMENT OF PASSION OR INSANITY IN BETRAYING CHRIST. HIS DARK DEED WAS QUIETLY AND DELIBERATELY PLANNED.

* MATTHEW 26:16 TELLS US THAT AFTER HE **BARGAINED WITH THE CHIEF PRIESTS, "FROM THAT TIME HE SOUGHT OPPORTUNITY TO BETRAY HIM."**

**** MARK 14:11 ADDS, "AND HE SOUGHT HOW HE MIGHT CONVENIENTLY BETRAY HIM." AND THEN IN LUKE 22:6 WE READ, "AND HE CONSENTED, AND BEGAN SEEKING GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO BETRAY HIM TO THEM IN THE ABSENCE OF THE MULTITUDE."**

*** SO JUDAS PLANNED TO BETRAY JESUS IN A PRIVATE, OUT OF THE WAY PLACE, WHICH WOULD BE GETHSEMANE.

**** NOW ACCORDING TO MATTHEW 26:15, JUDAS NEGOTIATED WITH THE CHIEF PRIESTS FOR 30 PIECES OF SILVER, EXACTLY WHAT ZECHARIAH 11:12&13 HAD PROPHESED.

1. NOW 30 PIECES OF SILVER WAS NOT A LOT OF MONEY, IT WAS A SMALL SUM, THE PRICE OF PURCHASING A SLAVE IN EXODUS 21:32 WHICH TELLS US 3 THINGS, NO. 1 GREEDY PEOPLE WILL SETTLE FOR ANY PRICE; NO. 2 THE CHIEF PRIESTS HAD SUCH DISDAIN FOR JUDAS THAT **THEY WOULDN'T GIVE HIM A LARGER SUM**, THEY KNEW HE WAS A DISCIPLE; AND NO. 3 THEY **HATED JESUS SO MUCH THAT THAT'S ALL** THEY THOUGHT HE WAS WORTH!

* WELL, IN THEIR NEGOTIATIONS ACCORDING TO MATTHEW 26:48, THE SIGN THAT JUDAS WOULD USE TO IDENTIFY CHRIST WITH WAS A KISS.

** BUT GET THIS, WHEN THEY CAME OUT TO ARREST JESUS IN THE DARKNESS OF GETHSEMANE, JESUS IDENTIFIED HIMSELF, SO JUDAS DID NOT NEED TO KISS JESUS TO IDENTIFY HIM, BUT DID IT ANYWAY.

*** JUDAS USED A CHERISHED MARK OF LOVE AND FRIENDSHIP AS HIS SIGN OF BETRAYAL **AND DIDN'T EVEN NEED TO DO IT, HE WAS THAT** DESPICABLE.

**** AND BEYOND THAT, IN HIS PERFORMANCE OF HYPOCRISY, THE GREEK TEXT OF MATTHEW 26:49 USES AN INTENSIVE FORM THAT SUGGEST JUDAS KISSED JESUS FERVENTLY AND REPEATEDLY, HE KEPT DOING IT, MAKING IT LOOK SINCERE, LIKE HE LOVED JESUS.

***** WHAT A TERRIBLE ACT, NOT ONLY TO SELL JESUS, BUT ACT OUT IN FRONT OF OTHERS LIKE HE LOVED HIM. BUT HIS SIN WOULD BRING GUILT WHICH LEADS US TO OUR LAST POINT TODAY, HIS DEATH.

V. HIS DEATH

A. NOW JAMES 1:15 SAYS: (QUOTE IT)

* NOW THIS VERSE CAN BE LITERALLY APPLIED **TO JUDAS. FOR JUDAS' LUST AND SIN WOULD BRING HIM TO PHYSICAL DEATH AND ETERNAL DEATH.**

** FOR WHEN JESUS HAD BEEN FOUND GUILTY BY THE MOCK TRIAL IN THE SANHEDRIN AND WAS TURNED OVER TO PILATE, IT SAYS IN MATTHEW **27:3&4 "THAT JUDAS FELT REMORSE". THE KJV SAYS REPENTED AND RETURNED THE 30 PIECES OF SILVER TO THE CHIEF PRIESTS AND ELDERS SAYING "I HAVE SINNED BY BETRAYING INNOCENT BLOOD."**

*** BUT FOLKS REMORSE IS A BETTER TRANSLATION FOR BEING SORRY IS NOT REPENTANCE.

**** JUDAS REGRETTED WHAT HE HAD DONE, HE WAS SORRY FOR THE CONSEQUENCES OF HIS ACTIONS, THE MESS HE MADE OF HIS LIFE, BUT HE DID NOT HAVE A CHANGE OF MIND AND HE DID NOT ASK GOD TO CHANGE HIS HEART.

1. HE THOUGHT HE COULD CHANGE SOMETHING BY GIVING BACK THE MONEY, FOR AS A MATERIALIST HE THOUGHT HE COULD CHANGE THINGS THAT WAY, THAT HE COULD RESOLVE THE PROBLEM BY THE PHYSICAL ACT OF GIVING BACK BLOOD MONEY.

* BUT HIS GUILT AND NOT EXPERIENCING TRUE FORGIVENESS BY TURNING FROM HIS SIN TO CHRIST LED HIM TO GO OUT AND HANG HIMSELF, HE COMMITTED SUICIDE. THIS IS NOT A FORGIVEN MAN WHO HAS HAD HIS BURDEN OF SIN LIFTED, QUOTE II CORINTHIANS 7:10.

** AND APPARENTLY ACCORDING TO ACTS 1:18, JUDAS FAILED IN HIS HANGING ATTEMPT, FOR IN THAT TEXT IT SAYS ABOUT JUDAS, **IT'S KIND OF GROSS, "AND FALLING HEADLONG, HE BURST OPEN IN THE MIDDLE AND ALL HIS INTESTINES GUSHED OUT."**

*** AND WHAT MUST HAVE HAPPENED WAS, THE BRANCH TO WHICH THE ROPE WAS TIED TO, TO HANG HIMSELF MUST HAVE BROKEN AND HE FELL DOWN BURSTING OPEN HIS BOWELS.

**** AND MOST LIKELY EITHER THE KNOT WAS INSUFFICIENT OR THE BRANCH BROKE, AND WHERE HE TRIED TO HANG HIMSELF WAS OBVIOUSLY CLOSE TO A PRECIPICE AND HE PLUMMETED TO THE ROCKS BENEATH, BURSTING OPEN HIS BOWELS.

2. BUT MORE TRAGIC THAN THAT, THE MOMENT HE DIED, HE LIFTED UP HIS EYES IN HELL, TO BE ETERNALLY PUNISHED, FOR ACTS 1:25 SAYS THAT JUDAS WENT TO HIS OWN PLACE.

* AND THE ONLY WAY TO DEAL WITH THE GUILT OF SIN IS TO TURN FROM IT IN REPENTANCE AND RECEIVE CHRIST AND HIS FORGIVENESS, **NOT JUST TO BE REMORSEFUL OR I'M SORRY I GOT CAUGHT**, EPHESIANS 1:7 (QUOTE IT).

** BELOVED, BURDENS ARE LIFTED AT CALVARY.

AND AS I WRAP UP THINGS TODAY ABOUT JUDAS ISCARIOT, I WANT TO MAKE 3 PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS.

* NO. 1 JUDAS IS A GREAT ILLUSTRATION OF THE LOVE OF MONEY BEING THE ROOT OF ALL KINDS OF EVIL. I MEAN HE LOVED MONEY SO MUCH THAT HE ACTUALLY SOLD THE LIVING GOD.

**** THAT'S HOW FAR GREED CAN TAKE A MAN.**

JUDAS IS A MONUMENT TO THE DESTRUCTIVENESS AND DAMNATION OF GREED. AND I SENSE TODAY THAT IS BECOMING MORE AND MORE AN ACCEPTABLE SIN IN THE CHURCH. BEWARE OF IT, IT IS SUBTLE IN ITS BEGINNING STATE. JESUS SAID IN LUKE 12:15, QUOTE IT. (ALSO QUOTE I TIMOTHY 6:10&11, AND HEBREWS 13:5&6).

*** NO. 2 JUDAS IS AN EXAMPLE OF LOST OPPORTUNITY. JUDAS HEARD JESUS PREACH, **SAW HIS POWER, WAS AROUND CHRIST'S** PEOPLE, BUT HAD NOT TRULY BEEN CONVERTED.

**** HE NO DOUBT HAD THE RIGHT LINGO, OUTWARD WORKS, BUT HIS HEART WAS NOT RIGHT WITH GOD. OH TO BE SO CLOSE, BUT SO FAR AWAY, TO HAVE ALL THAT OPPORTUNITY AND NOT BE SAVED.

(2) JUDAS IS AN EXAMPLE OF LOST OPPORTUNITY.

* THEN NO. 3 AND THIS TIES INTO NO. 1, BUT EXPANDS ON IT, JUDAS AND FALSE DISCIPLES ARE IN IT FOR WHAT THEY CAN RECEIVE, GET.

** THEY ARE SATISFIED WITH A SALVED CONSCIENCE, PEACE OF MIND, A GOOD REPUTATION OR SPIRITUAL SELF-SATISFACTION.

*** SOME OF THEM PROFESS CHRIST BECAUSE **IT'S GOOD FOR BUSINESS OR BECAUSE TRUSTING** CHRIST WILL BRING HEALTH, WEALTH AND PROSPERITY.

**** BUT THEY WILL SELL JESUS OUT WHEN THE GOING GETS TOUGH AND LIKE THE SEED THAT SPRINGS UP IN ROCKY SOIL, IT GROWS WELL FOR A WHILE, BUT WHEN THE SUN COMES UP, IT WITHERS AND DIES.

(3) AND BOTTOM LINE TODAY, I FEAR THERE ARE MULTITUDES LIKE JUDAS IN THE CONTEMPORARY CHURCH. THEY ARE FRIENDLY TO JESUS. THEY LOOK AND TALK LIKE DISCIPLES, BUT ARE NOT TRUE DISCIPLES.

* FOLKS, JUDAS DID NOT LOSE HIS SALVATION, HE NEVER HAD IT. AND THE MARK OF A TRUE DISCIPLE IS NOT THAT HE NEVER SINS, BUT RATHER THAT WHEN HE DOES SIN HE INEVITABLY RETURNS TO THE LORD TO RECEIVE FORGIVENESS AND CLEANSING.

** AND UNLIKE A FALSE DISCIPLE, THE TRUE DISCIPLE WILL NEVER TURN AWAY COMPLETELY, HE OR SHE PERSEVERES, WE MAY DENY CHRIST, BUT AFTER, WE LIKE PETER GO OUT AND WEEP BITTERLY.

*** JUDAS WAS THE ULTIMATE HYPOCRITE OF ALL TIME, AN ILLUSTRATION OF PEOPLE WHO CAN HIDE IN THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST AND BE FILLED WITH SATAN.

**** IF YOU ARE A JUDAS TODAY, TURN FROM YOUR SIN AND TURN TO THE SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST FOR FORGIVENESS. I CLOSE WITH II CORINTHIANS 13:5. **(LET'S PRAY).**