



# The Voice of Truth

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## **Did Judas Fall?**

By Jimmy Pettigrew

It is obvious that the Apostle Judas Iscariot went to the place of torment after betraying Jesus and committing suicide: "For the Son of man goeth, even as it is written of him: but woe unto that man through whom the Son of man is betrayed! good were it for that man if he had not been born" (Mark 14:21). Because of this fact, the eternal security defenders are left with no option but to strictly insist that Judas was never really saved to begin with or surrender their belief in eternal security, something which few of them seem to be willing to do.

Judas is a primary example of a believer who fell into complete apostasy. "And when it was day, he called his disciples; and he chose from them twelve, whom also he named apostles: Simon, whom he also named Peter, and Andrew his brother, and James and John, and Philip and Bartholomew, and Matthew and Thomas, and James (the son) of Alphaeus, and Simon who was called the Zealot, and Judas (the son) of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor" (Luke 6:13-16).

Please note: The first time we hear of Judas Iscariot, we are informed that he already was a "disciple." Furthermore, he was "called" and "chosen" by Christ Himself to be an "apostle" at the same time as the other twelve. "*Jesus answered them, Did not I choose you the twelve, and one of you is a devil? Now he spake of Judas (the son) of Simon Iscariot, for he it was that should betray him, (being) one of the twelve*" (**John 6:70-71**). Going back to verse 16, chapter 6 of Luke, please notes that Judas "became" a traitor. The word "became" for Judas suggest a change for the worse that occurred sometime after he was chosen as a disciple by Christ to be His apostle. Or we might say he was once a "disciple" of the Lord's elevated to apostle, who later "became a traitor," as God's Word has so stated. Either way, the spiritual condition of this apostle backslides to the place where he betrayed Christ, committed suicide and then went to the place of torment!

Also, remember this about Judas: he was sent forth to preach, heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those having leprosy and drive out demons. "*But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand. Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons: freely ye received, freely give. Get you no gold, nor silver, nor brass in your purses; no wallet for (your) journey, neither two coats, nor shoes, nor staff: for the laborer is worthy of his food*" (**Matthew 10:6-10**). "*And he appointed twelve, that they might be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach, and to have authority to cast out demons*" (**Mark 3:14-15**). This states that the twelve, including who? Judas, were given spiritual

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authority by Jesus to Drive out demons (**Matthew 12:26**)! For a person to indirectly say Judas was never saved is to say that Jesus chose Judas, who was unholy, to be His holy representative (**John 6:70-71**)!

*“Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, who did eat of my bread, hath lifted up his heel against me” (Psalm 41:9).* Jesus quotes from Psalm 41 and attributes it to Judas in **John 13**, verse eight, *“I speak not of you all: I know whom I have chosen: but that the scripture may be fulfilled: He that eateth my bread lifted up his heel against me.”* Please note that Judas was once Jesus’ close friend, whom Jesus trusted! Question: Since Jesus knew what was in man, *“for he himself knew what was in man” (John 2:25)*, how then could Jesus trust Judas in the early days of their friendship if Judas was never saved? *“Jesus saith to him, He that is bathed needeth not save to wash his feet, but is clean every whit: and ye are clean, but not all. For he knew him that should betray him; therefore said he, Ye are not all clean” (John 13:10-11).* Judas was not “clean” in contrast to the other disciples. But does this say that Judas was never “clean”? It merely says, at that point in time, Judas wasn’t clean then! Remember, he was a disciple in the beginning, chosen to be an apostle, so he must have been clean at the beginning!

Notice what is said concerning Judas: *“Jesus answered them, Did not I choose you the twelve, and one of you is a devil?” (John 6:70).* *“Now this he said, not because he cared for the poor; but because he was a thief, and having the bag took away what was put therein” (John 12:6).* *“And after the sop, then entered Satan into him. Jesus therefore saith unto him, What thou doest, do quickly” (John 13:27).* Those who believe in eternal security, once saved always saved, say Judas was called a devil, a thief, and Satan entered into him, how then could he have been saved? Such overlook the truth that one’s spiritual condition can change from righteous to evil as exemplified with Demas, the prodigal son and Solomon.

Notice this passage: *“But there are some of you that believe not. For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were that believed not, and who it was that should betray him” (John 6:64).* Some have also confused the truth stated in **John 6:64** to mean Judas never believed even from the beginning. However, it doesn’t say that at all! The verse says, *“But there are some of you that believe not. For Jesus knew from the beginning who they (Plural) were that believed not, and who (Singular) it was that should betray him.”* Notice there is two groups referred to here. This is evident in the Greek. One is plural in tense that didn’t believe from the beginning and the other is singular in tense referring to Judas who would betray Him!

So “once saved always saved” is a dangerous, false doctrine. It is just the kind of doctrine which would be in the gospel according to Satan.

## **GOD Is Watching**

By Jimmy Pettigrew

*"For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil"* (1 Peter 3:12). The "righteous" are the ones over whom God watches in tender care. God is ever watching to bless them. They are here contrasted with *"them that do evil."* God's protection, guardianship, and care are so meaningful for the Christian. God sees all that happens on the earth. We are prone to accept only that which is visible; and, since we cannot see God watching, we are unmindful of His constant surveillance!

So, it is difficult for any of us to remember always that there is an all seeing eyes watching our every act at all times. Yet, we're told, *"The Lord looketh from heaven; he beholdeth all the sons of men. From the place of his habitation he looketh upon all the inhabitants of the earth"* (Psalm 33:13-14). God sees and knows all that takes place in the world. *"The eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good"* (Proverbs 15:3). There is no possible way to escape this all seeing eye of God! Job says, *"For his eyes are upon the ways of man, and he seeth all his goings"* (**Job 34:21**).

Since God knows all our goings, we should be aware of this, and live accordingly! We should have the same conviction as Hagar in saying, *"Thou God seest me "* (Genesis 16:13). Are you conscious of this as you plan and proceed in your daily affairs? God sees and reads us constantly! *"Hell and destruction are before the Lord: how much more then the hearts of the children of men?"* (**Proverbs 15:11**). Man becomes utterly foolish in thinking that he can fool God, and hide his sinful behavior! *"Woe unto them that seek deep to hide their counsel from the Lord, and their works are in the dark, and they say, Who seeth us? and who knoweth us?"* (**Isaiah 29:15**). ". . . and be sure your sin will find you out" (Numbers 32:23). *"But the Lord said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart"* (1 Samuel 16:7). Though many of these passages are so well known, yet, how much have they really influenced our personal lives? Are we conscious throughout every day that God is silently observing our deeds and hearing our speech?

We can no more hide from God than could Adam and Eve in the garden. God knew why the prophet (Elijah) was hiding in the cave. Jonah was not hidden from God on the ship, nor yet in the belly of the great fish. Man cannot escape from Him. There is nothing that can hide from God! *"Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do"* (Hebrews 4:13). When Christians are aware that they cannot escape from Him, we should ". . . walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace" (Ephesians 4:1-3). Consciously walking under the surveillance of Almighty God will help:

- 1) A Christian to be an obedient child.
- 2) A Christian to be holy.
- 3) A Christian to be a walking sermon.
- 4) A Christian to be right in God's sight.
- 5) A Christian to be a good steward.
- 6) A Christian to be active in righteousness.

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- 7) A Christian to be present at every service.
  - 8) A Christian to be one who resists the Devil.
  - 9) A Christian to be one who prays
  - 10) A Christian to be one who abstains from all appearance of evil.
  - 11) A Christian to be servant.
  - 12) A Christian to be giver to the church according to what he makes rather than the amount he has left over.
  - 13) A Christian to be present at Sunday morning Bible class than staying home to sleep.
  - 14) A Christian to put the Lord's business above any other business.
  - 15) A Christian to see his own faults and not just the other fellows.
- God is observing all we do, and hearing all we say. Possibly no thought would add more zest to life and give it better direction than knowing that God is near and cares for us. Just remember that God is really watching!
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### **What Must I Do To Be Saved?**

**Hear and Learn** - Rom. 10:17 m. 10:9-10 ; 1 Pet. 3:21 ; John 6:45; 17:3

**Believe** - Heb. 11:6; John 6:29; 8:24

**Repent** - Luke 13:3; Acts 3:19; 17:30

**Confess the Lord** - Matt. 10:32-33; Romans 10:9-10; 1 Pet. 3:21

**Be Baptized** - Mark 16:16; Acts 22:16; Gal. 3:26-27

**Continue in the Apostles' Teaching** - Acts 2:42; 2 Tim. 3:14-17

**Thank you for reading...**