

## The Descent Into Darkness John 13:18–30

### SERMON OUTLINE

**Intro:** Crawford Toy's descent into darkness

#### I. The Advantages that Judas Enjoyed

- A. He witnessed Jesus' power through miracles
- B. He witnessed Jesus' authority in the temple
- C. He heard Jesus' teaching for years
- D. He benefitted from Jesus' acts of love and service

#### II. The Treachery that Judas Perpetrated

- A. Indwelt by Satan & committed the greatest crime ever
- B. He took his own life
- C. v. 30 - "It was night" - it's still night for Judas

#### III. The Questions that Judas Raises

- A. How can something like this happen?
  1. Judas' betrayal took place within the sovereign plan/design of God the Father
  2. Judas' apostasy took place out of his divided heart & double mindedness
  3. Judas' treachery took place as a collaboration with the forces of darkness
- B. How can I have confidence this won't happen to me?
  1. Remember the cross
  2. Rejoice in the gospel
  3. Reject the path of the wicked

### APPLICATIONS

- Examine your own heart
- Remember our advantages (church, resources, etc)
- Are we lured by a land of darkness?
- Do we grow tired of the hard work of the faith/church?
- Look to the cross and take up the sword of the Spirit against the enemy

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Talk about a time when you felt closest to God. What were the contributing factors?
2. Read Matthew 26:20–25. What did you notice about Judas' answer to Jesus' question? Why does it matter?
3. Pastor Jake asked us, "When was the last time you took stock of your life and your desire for money?" Discuss.
4. What are the greatest dangers in our culture when it comes to leading people into apostasy?
5. Baptists believe in the perseverance of the saints. How does we reconcile this doctrine with the reality of apostasy and the scriptural warnings against it? (Read Heb. 3:12–19).

### OTHER QUESTIONS THAT MAY HELP

1. What does this text tell us about God?
2. What does this text tell us about man?
3. What should I put on or put off in my thinking?
4. What should I put on or put off in my doing?

### PREVIOUS HOMEWORK

1. Make a practical commitment & plan to study God's Word.
2. Ask someone in your group to hold either read with you or to you accountable to your commitment to study the Word.

### HOMEWORK

1. Read Psalm 139:23–24 as a prayer. Ask God to show you (& help you to repent of) areas of temptation & sin in your life.
2. Read Psalm 1 and ask God to help you reject wickedness and pursue righteousness.

2 Timothy 3:16	THINKING	DOING	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>+</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>“PUT ON”</b></p>		Teaching	Training
		<p style="text-align: center;"><b>—</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>“PUT OFF”</b></p>	