

John 13

Sunday 4/24/2022

It is well with my soul. Years ago, I was in a debate with a guy, and he was an atheist. He said, "What are you going to do when you get to the end of life and you find out that everything you believed, and everything you preached, and everything that you held on to, really wasn't true?" He said, "What are you going to do with that?" I said, "Well, that's a good point." I said, "If that would be the case, I can honestly say this: I've had more peace and more comfort and more understanding and more love from believing this lie than the lie that you believe, because it is well with my soul today."

Last time we were together, we saw the great picture of what we as God's people should be in our relationship with Christ as we have our fellowship with Christ. All of this is based on John and hearing the heartbeat of God, and all of this is out of John chapter 13. I tied it into the book of First John and showed you how that one book, the Gospel of John, deals with God coming down to man to give us His salvation. Then the other book, First John, deals with, because of what He gave up and coming to us, we can now have that fellowship with the Father through the Lord Jesus Christ. We finished that section by looking at the Apostle John, the only man in all of the Bible who hears God's heartbeat. Then he writes, based on what that heartbeat was to him, the five key wisdom books in the New Testament. For us, these books pull all of the Bible together and put the Old Testament and the New Testament into an understandable, complete context.

To me, the wisdom books have always been amazing books. We have five in the Old Testament and then we have five in the New Testament. That's ten. Ten in your Bible will be the number of the Gentiles and for us in the church age. Most people do not go to this depth in the Bible, but the Bible was originally written in Hebrew. If you would look at Genesis 1:1 in Hebrew, you would find that in the Hebrew Bible, there are seven words for "In the beginning God created heaven and the earth." There are seven. Seven is God's perfect number. We are told in Zephaniah 3:9 that Hebrew is the perfect, pure language. So when God put His Old Testament out in Hebrew, He put seven letters and seven words in it to express that verse. But in your King James Bible in English, you will find there are ten words because it is an English Bible given to the Gentiles, and ten in the Bible is the number of the Gentiles.

So the first verse in your Bible in Genesis 1:1 will have ten words. Noah is called the father of the Gentiles; his lineage is the tenth from Adam. You will find the first Gentile kingdom found in Genesis 10:10. In Acts chapter 10, you will find the Gospel goes to the Gentiles. In Romans chapter 10 is where we would go for salvation to the Gentiles. The last Gentile kingdom in Daniel chapter 2 is represented by the ten toes of Daniel, and Revelation tells us it is represented by ten kings. So you have a Bible in your hand today that was given to us as Gentiles, and it is an amazing thing. It really is.

I. The Betrayal of Christ and the Character of Judas

Today we are going to finish up John chapter 13. I am going to tell you right now, this is going to be a major part of your Bible. I would implore you to put this into some kind of notebook. I would not try to get it into your Bible this morning. Go home, listen to it. This is one of these things that you have got to work out. I would put this in either the front part of your Bible in the pages or the back part. I will give you a little insight into how to do that a little bit later on. But we are going to see today the contrast of what has been laid out for us.

In John chapter 13, we now come to the betrayal of the Lord Jesus Christ by Judas. He will be our next character study today. You are going to find that the world and the devil have tried to cover up for Judas all through history. When you saw the movie *The Passion of the Christ* and all of those things that came out and all the misconceptions, the further confusion for Christianity that had no Bible, you will get the impression that Judas got a raw deal.

Why in your Bible do you have four Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John? But in the religious world, there are over eighty Gospels. One of those Gospels will be the Gospel according to Judas. Of course, they are all bogus; they have nothing to do with the Bible. When God shows the books appeared in the Bible, He gave you four Gospels. Certainly, the Gospel according to Judas would not be worth anything in this world when it comes to any kind of spiritual truth.

Now we are going to see the great contrast. I am going to read for you John chapter 13. We will pick it up in verse 25, where we were last week, and then we will come on down through the end of the chapter.

John 13:25

He then lying on Jesus' breast saith unto him, Lord, who is it?

John 13:26

Jesus answered, He it is, to whom I shall give a sop, when I have dipped it. And when he had dipped the sop, he gave it to Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon.

John 13:27

And after the sop Satan entered into him. Then said Jesus unto him, That thou doest, do quickly.

John 13:28

Now no man at the table knew for what intent he spake this unto him.

John 13:29

For some of them thought, because Judas had the bag, that Jesus had said unto him, Buy those things that we have need of against the feast; or, that he should give something to the poor.

John 13:30

He then having received the sop went immediately out: and it was night.

John 13:31

Therefore, when he was gone out, Jesus said, Now is the Son of man glorified, and God is glorified in him.

John 13:32

If God be glorified in him, God shall also glorify him in himself, and shall straightway glorify him.

John 13:33

Little children, yet a little while I am with you. Ye shall seek me: and as I said unto the Jews, Whither I go, ye cannot come; so now I say to you.

John 13:34

A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.

John 13:35

By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.

John 13:36

Simon Peter said unto him, Lord, whither goest thou? Jesus answered him, Whither I go, thou canst not follow me now; but thou shalt follow me afterwards.

John 13:37

Peter said unto him, Lord, why cannot I follow thee now? I will lay down my life for thy sake.

John 13:38

Jesus answered him, Wilt thou lay down thy life for my sake? Verily, verily, I say unto thee, The cock shall not crow, till thou hast denied me thrice.

Now, Father, we ask You to open up our hearts today. Give us the Word of God. We pray, Father, for everyone here that our hearts would be clean and open to You, to Your Word. We just pray, Father, that You will give us the Word that we need today. These are Your people. They are good people. As I have said many, many times, we ask You to open up our hearts and our lives and our eyes and to see those things which You have for us. Help us learn our Bible, help us to put it together, help us to be used in any scenario or situation that we may find ourselves to be fully functional for You. We will ask all these things in Jesus' sake, for His name we ask it. Amen.

II. Judas as the Antichrist and the Mystery of Iniquity

As I said, we now have in this chapter the great contrast of John, who is a type of the church and also a great picture for us, and then Judas, who we know now is the Antichrist. Here we see in

John 13:27 the devil entering into Judas for the final part of Christ's ministry to betray Him and then to turn Him over to Rome and to have Him killed.

We have talked about Judas many, many times, and we know that Judas was a counterfeit. The Bible tells us in John 6:70, Jesus Himself speaking, He says:

John 6:70

Jesus answered them, Have not I chosen you twelve, and one of you is a devil?

Judas was a satanic implant into the twelve. He is called the son of perdition in John 17:12, and so is the Antichrist in 2 Thessalonians 2:3. I do not have time this morning to go into how this all came about and what Satan did. We have talked about it basically over time in the Bible studies, but I do not have time to get into that. We are going to talk more about why he did it today.

Now we see Satan entering into Judas, just like he will do in the last half of the tribulation period with the Antichrist in Revelation chapter 12 and 13. Judas is the Antichrist. In both cases, at the end of Christ's ministry, three and a half years, the devil enters into him to get rid of him. At the end of the tribulation period, the last three and a half years, he enters into him again to destroy the nation of Israel, Revelation chapter 12 and 13.

Most people, when they get to this account that I am reading today, like most accounts in the Bible, they just see what is on the surface. I have never been satisfied with just the general truth of the Bible. I learned a long time ago that everything in life will have some connection back to the Bible, and certainly everything in the Bible will have a connection to something in life. I know the types. I know the pictures. I know how God has put His Bible together. I have never been satisfied with just what most Christians and actually most pastors are satisfied with this day: a blasé, surface understanding of the Bible, and not even a very good understanding of the surface. I do not want you to be that way either. You may choose to be that way and you may wind up that way, but that is not my goal.

Most people read this and it is just part of the crucifixion story. Judas selling Him out for thirty pieces of silver, and all that stuff. They do not take it any farther than that. This is part of the last week with Easter, and you heard, I guarantee you, all through this country, if not around the world, Easter messages that were just dealing with the basic stuff. They never really get any depth out of it. But within the Bible, this is just another picture of an ongoing piece of the puzzle, which in the Bible is called the mystery of iniquity.

The mystery of iniquity is one of the seven mysteries that were given to the church. We do not have time to go into that today. It would take us all day to really lay it out in its entirety the way that it should. But we are told in 2 Corinthians 4:1 that we as ministers are to be stewards of those mysteries. In other words, as a pastor, I am to teach the mysteries to my people. These mysteries are really key elements to putting the Bible together. The mystery of iniquity is more than just what it seems on the surface, which hopefully you will see today. The mystery of iniquity is one of the greatest things that we will ever find anywhere in the Bible.

We are told in 2 Thessalonians chapter 2. Let us turn over there for a moment.

2 Thessalonians 2:1

Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him,

2 Thessalonians 2:2

That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand.

2 Thessalonians 2:3

Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;

Now this is the Antichrist. Judas and the Antichrist are both called the son of perdition because they are one and the same. The reason why they are is part of this mystery of iniquity. This is part of the mystery. We will get into it a little farther here in a minute.

2 Thessalonians 2:4

Who opposeth and exalteth himself