The Betrayer

John 13:18-30

Introduction:

Previously Jesus had said: ﻿“If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.” (13:17)

The “you” is plural, Y’al – all of you. Blessed (Happy) are y’al if y’al do them. Christian happiness comes from knowing and doing what Jesus has taught them, especially forgiving one another – (13:1-17). However, He was not speaking to every one of them. Therefore He said: “I do not speak concerning all of you.” (13:18a)

I. The Betrayer Was Predicted – 13:18-22

A. What the Scripture Said – 13:18 ﻿

﻿

“I do not speak concerning all of you. I know whom I have chosen; but that the ﻿﻿Scripture may be fulfilled, ﻿﻿*‘He who eats* ﻿﻿bread with Me has lifted up his heel against Me.”

Psalm 41:9

“﻿Even my own familiar friend in whom I trusted, Who ate my bread, Has ﻿﻿lifted up *his* heel against me.”

In the O.T. context, David is speaking of his friend Ahithophel, who betrayed him, and then hanged himself (2 Sam. 16:20-17:3).

Note: David is often shown as a type of Jesus’ life. Jesus was Son of David (after the flesh). He claimed the right to David’s throne. He will sit on David’s throne in the Millennium, as David’s seed. (Luke 1:32)

B. What the Savior Said – 13:19-22

1. Accepting Him – 13:19-20 ﻿

﻿﻿

Looking at verses 19-20 as it relates to us, today:

a. Assurance of His Person – 13:19

“Now I tell you before it comes, that when it does come to pass, you may believe that I am *He.”*

b. Assurance of His Presence – 13:20

“Most assuredly, I say to you, he who receives whomever I send (you) receives Me (Jesus); and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me.” (The Father)

2. Rejecting Him – 13:21-22

a. Jesus’ Statement – 13:21

﻿

﻿﻿“When Jesus had said these things, ﻿﻿He was troubled in spirit, and testified and said, “Most assuredly, I say to you, ﻿﻿one of you will betray Me.”

“Troubled in spirit” (“stirred or agitated”), the same word used of Jesus in 11:33; 12:27 (also used by Jesus in 14:1, 27).

Being betrayed by a friend was the worst blow of all. “one of you will betray Me.” It was one of His closest friends on earth.

b. The Disciples’ Surprise – 13:22

“Then the disciples looked at one another, perplexed about whom He spoke.”

They did not suspect anyone in the group. Judas was not an outsider; he was one of them.

﻿II. The Betrayer Was Pointed Out – 13:23-26

A. John – 13:23-24

﻿

“Now ﻿﻿there was ﻿﻿leaning on Jesus’ bosom one of His disciples, whom Jesus loved.’

This one whom Jesus loved was John, the author of this Gospel. John never names himself in his Gospel. This is not an epistle (letter) in which you give your name. It is a document in which the author prefers to remain anonymous.

“Simon Peter therefore motioned to him to ask who it was of whom He spoke.”

Peter, sitting a ways away, motioned to John to ask Jesus who it was.

Question? Why do you think Peter wanted to know?

Answer: Knowing Peter as we do, He probably wanted to break him in half.

Luke (22:38, 49-50) mentioned that the disciples had two swords! Later, Peter would use one of them to slice off an ear. (John18:10)

1. Jesus – 13:25-26a

“Then, leaning ﻿﻿back on Jesus’ breast, he said to Him, “Lord, who is it?”

Jesus answer must have been a whisper because only Judas, sitting on the other side of Him heard it.

﻿“Jesus answered, “It is he to whom I shall give a piece of bread when I have dipped *it.*”

A host’s giving a morsel of bread to a guest was a sign of friendship. It was Jesus’ final offer of grace to Judas. How ironic that Jesus’ act of friendship to Judas signaled Judas’ betrayal of that friendship.

The disciples still did not know the code (not even John at that time – (see v. 28)

C. Judas – 13:26b

“And having dipped the bread, He gave *it* to ﻿﻿Judas Iscariot, *the son* of Simon.”

It seems that John did not grasp the significance of the sign until after the fact.

Note: Judas did not have to betray Jesus. Satan tempted him with greed. He accepted of his own free will. God does not tempt anyone to evil.

James 1:13-14

“Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am tempted by God”; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed.”

III. The Betrayer was Put Out – 13:27-30

A. Judas and the Devil – 13:27

﻿

﻿“Now after the piece of bread, Satan entered him. Then Jesus said to him, “What you do, do quickly.”

It is interesting that Satan was playing a part in what was to become his own eternal death. Satan may have thought that the Jews would be in control of Jesus’ death and it would be death by stoning, but it was in fact the Romans, whose method of execution was Crucifixion as the O.T. predicted. Satan was judged at the cross. His sentence will be carried out in Revelation 20.

B. Judas and the Disciples – 13:28-29

﻿

“But no one at the table knew for what reason He said this to him.”

“No one” includes John. He knew later and included it here.

“For some thought, because Judas had the money box, that Jesus had said to him, buy *those things* we need for the feast,” or that he should give something to the poor.” (29)

These are logical conclusions, but wrong.

C. Judas and the Darkness – 13:30

﻿

“Having received the piece of bread, he then went out immediately. And it was night.”

The statement, “It was night.” Could mean simply that it was night-time. On the other hand, especially in John’s Gospel, it probably has a symbolic significance. Judas was leaving the light (Jesus) and going into the darkness of sin and betrayal.

﻿Conclusion: