

Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes

Sermon Notes for April 22-23, 2006

"The Betrayer"

John 13:18-22

The love of Christ exemplified (John 13:1-6).

The love of Christ explained (John 13:6-11).

The love of Christ exhorted (John 13:12-17).

Those disciples of Christ who heeded His exhortation in John 13:14 would be blessed with the assurance that they were truly His disciples.

John, against the backdrop of the love of Christ, exemplified, explained and exhorted details for us on how Christ very systematically exposed His self-serving betrayer in John 13:18-30.

The betrayer predicted (John 13:18-22).

When Jesus told His disciples, "I do not speak of all of you," He made it clear that not all of them would experience the blessedness of the assurance that comes through serving others.

When Jesus said, "I know the ones I have chosen," He was talking about having an intimate knowledge of the character of those He had originally chosen to be His disciples (John 6:70).

The reason why Jesus chose Judas even though He knew that Judas was a "devil" was in order that the Scriptures might be fulfilled (John 13:18).

The Scripture that Christ quoted that would ultimately be fulfilled by His choice of Judas was Psalms 41:9.

David, in Psalm 41:9, did not specifically speak of Christ's betrayal by Judas but rather he spoke of his betrayal by his close friend Ahithophel (2 Samuel 15:31).

Though David was specifically speaking of the betrayal of Ahithophel in Psalms 41:9, Jesus, in John 13:18, makes it clear that David's betrayal by Ahithophel prophetically prefigured His own betrayal.

Jesus, in John 13:19, told His disciples that He was speaking bluntly about His betrayal so that when it happened they might believe that He was in fact the one who had told them.

When Judas betrayed Christ he abandoned the mission that Jesus had entrusted to His apostles, but the remaining apostles could be assured that their mission was still in place (John 13:20).

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Though Jesus spoke of His betrayal, it is clear from John 13:21 that Jesus felt it was necessary to help them see that His betrayer would in fact be one of them.

It is clear from the response of the disciples in John 13:22 that there was nothing in the life of Judas that alerted his fellow disciples that at the core of his being he was an enemy of Christ.

Our protection against self-deception when it comes to the assurance of our salvation is the presence of a conscious striving toward conformity to Christ that takes precedent above all else.

May God give us the grace each day to make sure that there is nothing more important in our lives than our striving to be more like Him.