

Pastor Ron Case
4/1/12

“God on Trial”

“Will you even put me in the wrong? Will you condemn me that you may be in the right?” (Job 40:8)

Judge Judas

John 12:1-8 – (1) “Six days before the Passover, Jesus therefore came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. (2) So they gave a dinner for him there. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those reclining with him at the table. (3) Mary therefore took a pound of expensive ointment made from pure nard, and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. (4) But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (he who was about to betray him), said, (5) ‘Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?’ (6) He said this, not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief, and having charge of the moneybag he used to help himself to what was put into it. (7) Jesus said, ‘Leave her alone, so that she may keep it for the day of my burial. (8) The poor you always have with you, but you do not always have me.’”

Seductive Sympathy

Luke 22:3-6 – (3) “Then Satan entered into Judas called Iscariot, who was of the number of the twelve. (4) He went away and conferred with the chief priests and officers how he might betray him to them. (5) And they were glad, and agreed to give him money. (6) So he consented and sought an opportunity to betray him to them in the absence of a crowd.”

Desolate Destiny of Misjudgment

Matthew 27:3-5 – (3) “Then when Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus was condemned, he changed his mind and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders, (4) saying, ‘I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.’ They said, ‘What is that to us? See to it yourself.’ (5) And throwing down the pieces of silver into the temple, he departed, and he went and hanged himself.”

Acts 1:20 – “For it is written in the Book of Psalms, ‘May his camp become desolate, and let there be no one to dwell in it’; and ‘Let another take his office.’”

Key Point: Living by Expectations or Faith in Jesus?

Beware the “I thoughts”

2 Kings 5:11 – “But Naaman was angry and went away, saying, ‘Behold, *I thought* that he would surely come out to me and stand and call upon the name of the LORD his God, and wave his hand over the place and cure the leper.’”

Beware Poisonous Motivations

Acts 8:18-24 – (18) “Now when Simon saw that the Spirit was given through the laying on of the apostles’ hands, he offered them money, (19) saying, ‘Give me this power also, so that anyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit.’ (20) But Peter said to him, ‘May your silver perish with you, because you thought you could obtain the gift of God with money! (21) You have neither part nor lot in this matter, for your heart is not right before God. (22) Repent, therefore, of this wickedness of yours, and pray to the Lord that, if possible, the intent of your heart may be forgiven you. (23) For I see that you are in the gall of bitterness and in the bond of iniquity.’ (24) And Simon answered, ‘Pray for me to the Lord, that nothing of what you have said may come upon me.’”

Questions:

What impacted me the most in this message?

Am I driven by assumptions or expectations about my life and God?

How did Jesus as a human deal with humanistic assessing?

(Is. 11:3, 49:4-6, 53:7; Luke 22:42)

What did Job do when he realized he was guilty of premature judgment towards God? (Job 42:1-6)

Is there any ‘Judas in Me’? (Heb. 3:12-14)