

RUSSELL SANDERS

5-22-2021

JUDAS ISCARIOT – LESSON 4

A CHOSEN DISCIPLE

Yesterday we looked at the background of Judas Iscariot. He grew up in Bethany and was educated in the best that the Jewish establishment could offer to this son of a respected Pharisee, Simon “the leper” Iscariot. Today we look at his experiences under the discipleship of Jesus.

We do not have a record of his individual call, but we do know that Jesus specifically chose him to be one of the twelve. In this exclusive “school” of students (disciples) Jesus would personally teach and train him and the others to succeed Him.

Judas saw Jesus do many miracles, signs, and wonders as folk were healed, demons cast out, and the dead raised. He heard the “sermon on the mount” (Matthew 5-7) and many other sermons, teachings, and parables. He witnessed all of it, and more.

Judas also did some of those same works. Luke 9:1-6, 10 tells how Jesus sent all twelve out on their own. He gave all of them power (specially anointed) to cure diseases and cast out demons, to heal the sick and to preach the good news of the kingdom of God. They **ALL** did these works, Judas included.

Judas knew Jesus’ message centered on the great commandment (or attribute) of love. He received at least three years of tutoring from the Master. He became certain, as did the others that Jesus of Nazareth was indeed the promised Messiah.

Having witnessed such great things, and even doing them himself, how is it that he eventually came to betray the one whom he knew to be the promised Messiah?

That is the question we will discuss tomorrow.