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## The Final Week of Jesus Christ's Ministry - Wednesday

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## THE FINAL WEEK OF JESUS CHRIST'S MINISTRY—WEDNESDAY

### WEDNESDAY

- **THE OUTLINE**

- A. The plot by the Sanhedrin to arrest and kill Jesus (Mt. 25:1-5; Mk. 14:1, 2; Lk. 21:37-22:2)
- B. The agreement by Judas to betray Jesus (Mt. 26:14-16; Mk. 14:10, 11; Lk. 22:3-6)
  - 1. He bargained to do this for thirty pieces of silver (Mt. 26:14).
  - 2. At that time Satan enters into Judas (Lk. 22:3).

- **THE ANALYSIS**

*"Then entered Satan into Judas surnamed Iscariot, being of the number of the twelve. And he went his way, and communed with the chief priests and captains, how he might betray him unto them." (Lk. 22:3-4)*

This is the first of two recorded occasions when Satan himself entered into Judas (see also Jn. 13:27). This can be said about no other person in the Bible.

- A. *"And said unto them, What will ye give me, and I will deliver him unto you? And they covenanted with him for thirty pieces of silver. And from that time he sought opportunity to betray him." (Mt. 26:15-16)*
- B. Why did Judas offer to betray Jesus? Various suggestions have been made, each of which may contain an element of truth:
  - 1. Judas, the only non-Galilean member of the twelve, may have responded to the official notice (Jn. 11:57).
  - 2. He was disillusioned by Jesus' failure to establish a political kingdom and his hopes for material gain seemed doomed.
  - 3. "His love for money moved him to salvage something for himself. Ultimately he came under satanic control (cf. Lk. 22:3; Jn. 13:2, 27). In Judas' life one finds an intriguing combination of divine sovereignty and human responsibility. According to God's plan Jesus must suffer and die (Rev. 13:8); yet Judas, though not compelled to be the traitor, was held responsible for submitting to Satan's directives (cf. Mk. 14:21; Jn. 13:27)." (*The Bible Knowledge Commentary*, Victor Books, Wheaton, Ill., 1983, p. 175)