

CHAPTER 10

A REVIEW OF THE TWELVE AND MATTHIAS

Review

We have studied all twelve of the disciples. You will now be given 35 review questions. See how well you can do!

1. Which disciple was called "the zealot"? _____
2. Which disciple brought Peter to the Lord? _____
3. Who was the disciple who was very loyal to Jesus but who always seemed to look at the darker side of things? _____
4. Which disciple walked on water? _____
5. Which two disciples were called "the sons of thunder"? _____
6. Which disciple wrote one New Testament book? _____
7. Give the names of three disciples who were fishermen? _____

8. Who was "the disciple whom Jesus loved"? _____
9. Which disciple was "the doubter"? _____
10. Which disciple was a tax collector? _____
11. Who were the three "inner circle disciples"? _____
12. Which disciple seemed to stay the closest to Jesus? _____
13. Which disciple sliced off the ear of Malchus? _____
14. Which disciple wrote five New Testament books? _____
15. Who was the disciple who told Nathanael about the Lord? _____
16. Who were the sons of Zebedee? _____
17. In the band of 12 disciples there were two sets of brothers. Write down their names:
_____ and _____
and _____
18. What was Bartholomew's other name? _____
19. Which disciple wrote two New Testament books? _____
20. Which disciple became known as "the traitor"? _____
21. There were three pairs of disciples who shared the same name. Write down these three names:
There were two disciples named _____
There were two disciples named _____
There were two disciples named _____
22. Which disciple denied his Lord three times? _____
23. Which disciple was called "the son of perdition"? _____
24. Give the names of two disciples who were opposites and who probably would have been enemies if the Lord Jesus had not brought them together: _____

25. Which disciple was the first to be martyred? _____
26. Which two disciples were absent from the group of disciples as they met together on that first Easter Sunday evening? _____
27. Give the names of two "little known" disciples: _____
28. Which disciple has a name which means "May God be praised! "? _____

29. Give the name of the one disciple who was "not clean": _____
30. Which disciple was present at the very foot of the cross? _____
31. Which disciple pretended to be concerned about the poor? _____
32. Which disciple usually spoke first and acted first? _____
33. Can you think of another name for Thaddaeus? _____
34. Who preached on the Day of Pentecost? _____
35. Who was the "treasurer" of the disciples (the man who held the money bag)? _____

The Death Of Judas

There are only two places in the Bible which tell us about the death of Judas, the man who betrayed the Lord. We will look at both of these passages to see what we can learn.

Passage Number 1—Matthew 27:3-5.

Did Judas know that he had done wrong (Matthew 27:3-4)? _____ Did he recognize the fact that he had sinned? _____ Were the Jewish leaders very interested in what Judas told them (Matthew 27:4)? _____ Judas SAID THE RIGHT THING ("I have _____" (Matthew 27:4) but he DID NOT GO TO THE RIGHT PERSON (Matt. 27:3). The chief priests and elders were the wrong people to go to. They were also guilty of putting Christ on the cross. Judas cried out to a group of men who could care less about Judas and his problems. They were great sinners also, and they were unable to help Judas.

When we have a problem, we need to make sure that we go to the right person with our problem. If you have difficulty with a math assignment, who should you go to for help? Would it be wise to go to a friend who always gets poor grades in math? _____ Your math teacher is probably the best person to call upon for help. When it comes to the problem of sin, who is really the only Person who can help (Hebrews 7:25; Acts 4:10-12)? _____ Judas made a fatal mistake by never going to God. He should have cried out to God: "LORD, I HAVE SINNED! HAVE MERCY ON ME AND SAVE ME!" What promise does God give to every person who calls upon the name of the Lord for salvation (Romans 10:13)?

Did Judas ever do this? _____ Instead, he departed and went and _____ (Matthew 27:5).

According to this verse, how would you describe the death of Judas (circle the correct answer):

- a. The death of Judas was murder.
- b. The death of Judas was accidental.
- c. The death of Judas was suicide.
- d. Judas died a natural death as an old man.

What is involved in death by HANGING? Usually we think of some kind of rope tied around the neck. For example, a person could hang himself on a tree by tying one end of the rope to a branch, the other end to his neck, and then letting himself hang. Exactly how Judas hanged himself we are not told. We are simply told that this is what he did.

Passage Number 2—Acts 1:15-18.

Read Acts 1:18 carefully. Does this verse also talk about the death of Judas? _____ Does this passage mention anything about hanging? _____ This verse tells us that Judas suffered a very serious FALL, and it also tells us that this fall resulted in a terrible injury. Another translation of this verse says it this way: "And falling headlong [head first], he burst open in the middle and all his entrails [guts, inner parts, intestines] gushed out." In other words, because of this fall his body was broken open in the middle.

Usually when a person hangs himself (or when he is put to death by hanging) his body does not break open in the middle and all his insides do not come out. Death by hanging does not usually cause the body to be broken open anywhere. What happened to Judas seems to have been very unusual.

Think of a person who does not believe the Bible. Suppose he were to read Matthew 27:5 and Acts 1:18. As he compares these two verses, he might say something like this: "These verses prove that the Bible is not true. In Matthew we are told that Judas died one way, and in Acts we are told that he died another way. These verses contradict each other. They cannot both be true. If Judas really hanged himself, then the verse in Acts must not be true. If Judas really fell to his death, then the verse in Matthew must not be true."

What is wrong with this thinking? Does the Bible really have contradictions in it (John 17:17)? Is Matthew 27:5 true? _____ Is Acts 1:18 true? _____ The problem is not with the Bible. The problem is that our knowledge of the event is limited. We were not there when it happened, so we do not know all of the details. All we know for sure is what these two verses tell us. If we had been present to witness the tragic death of Judas, then we could easily see how both of these verses are true. Judas did hang himself, and Judas did suffer a serious fall which resulted in his body being broken open.

It is possible for us to imagine what *might* have happened. It is possible that as Judas tried to hang himself, the rope or branch from which he was suspended broke and he was violently thrown and fell down, perhaps landing on some sharp object such as a jagged stone. If this is what really happened, then it would be easy to see how the verse in Matthew and the verse in Acts are both telling the truth.

We know from Matthew 27:5 that Judas hanged himself, but apparently what Judas thought would be a simple hanging turned out quite differently. Judas probably did not intend to fall in such a way as to break open his body in the middle. It seems as if God's hand was at work in the death of Judas. It seems as if God did not allow Judas to get away with a simple hanging. It turned out much differently than Judas had thought. God made sure that this terrible life ended with a terrible death.

We should also remember that the terrible death of Judas was only a picture of something far worse. The "physical" death of Judas was really not that terrible. Judas must have only suffered pain for a few moments and then it was all over. But the physical death of Judas was only a doorway which led into AN ETERNITY OF SUFFERING. Judas will be separated from God and punished by God forever in the _____ of _____ (Revelation 20:14-15). May the life and death of Judas be a serious warning to each one of us. If you are unsaved today you will experience AN ETERNITY OF SUFFERING just like Judas, UNLESS you come to the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation before it is too late.

In the Greek tragedy *Antigone* by Sophocles, a traitor was condemned to hang in a tree until his body was completely destroyed. King Creon, his uncle, commanded that his body hang in a tree so that scavengers such as buzzards could eat his body. Because the man had declared civil war against his brother's rule (an indecent act), he was condemned to an indecent death. So also, the marring of Judas's body is certainly a visual image to impress upon us the tragedy of being "lost."

Judas's story certainly dampens any enthusiasm for sympathy with those who commit treason!

A Replacement Is Needed

The Lord Jesus originally chose 12 disciples or apostles. One of these men betrayed the Lord and hanged himself. There were now only 11. There was an empty space which needed to be filled. Someone needed to replace Judas and take his place (see Acts 1:20, where the word *bishopric* means *office*).

Read Matthew 19:28. Do you think the Lord would someday allow Judas to sit on one of these thrones? _____ Does this verse show why it was necessary to have 12 apostles and not just 11? _____ Read Revelation 21:14. Do you think the name of Judas will be found written in the wall of the eternal city? _____ Does this verse show us that it was needful to have a replacement for Judas? _____

In the group of disciples there was a vacancy that needed to be filled. If the President of the United States were to die or resign from his Presidential office, would this create a vacancy that would need to be filled? _____ What man would take his place as the next President of the United States? _____ Judas was chosen to a position of importance as an apostle of Jesus Christ. When he fell from this position, a replacement was needed. WHO WAS THIS PERSON?

Finding God's Choice

Peter wisely suggested that the replacement for Judas be a man who had been associated with the disciples throughout the Lord's public ministry, "beginning with the _____ of John, unto that same day that he was _____ up from us" (Acts 1:22).

The Lord's Public Ministry (About three and a half years)



This person must have also seen the risen Lord so that he could be a W _____ of His resurrection (Acts 1:22). How many men did they find who met these qualifications (Acts 1:23)? _____ What were their names? _____

Which of these two men had God chosen to be the replacement for Judas?

_____ How could they determine which man was God's choice? What was the very *first* thing they did (Acts 1:2-24)? _____ Why is God the One who is best qualified to make the right choice (Acts 1:24)? _____

The next thing they did was to give forth their lots. Using lots is something like flipping a coin or throwing dice or drawing straws. This way of making a choice seems like a method that depends on **luck** or **chance**, but often in the days of the Old Testament, God stepped in and the lots would fall just as God wanted them to (see Jonah 1:7 and 1 Samuel 14:42). See Proverbs 16:33 that explains this method: "The _____ is cast into the lap; but the whole disposing thereof is of the _____." Men may throw dice and flip coins, but God supervises it all and decides how the dice and coins will fall. Peter and the other disciples were not being guided by LUCK; they were being guided by the LORD.

Upon which man did the lot fall (Acts 1:26)? _____ This man became the 12th Apostle, the replacement for Judas. This man is only mentioned here in Acts chapter 1 and we know nothing about this man except for what we learn here in this chapter.

After the Holy Spirit came on the day of Pentecost, we never read about believers using lots to make decisions because New Testament believers enjoy the very special and very personal guidance of the Holy Spirit of God (compare Romans 8:14).

There are important decisions that each of us must make every day. Remember, that when we do not know what to decide, God does! When we can't see into the future, God can. When we do not know what to do, God does. In making decisions, let's always remember this important triangle:

**The believer
in prayerful
dependence
upon God,
rightly
applying the
Word of God
as guided by
the Holy
Spirit of God.**

1. Prayer

**Drawing upon the
knowledge and wisdom
of God (Acts 1:14 and
see James 1:5-6)**

**Three
Keys to
Decision
Making**

2. The Word of God

**Letting the Bible guide
you in your decision
making (notice how
Peter used the Bible in
Acts 1:16-20).**

3. The Holy Spirit

**Staying in a right relation-
ship with the Lord so that
He might continually steer
you in the right direction
(Gal. 5:16 and Eph. 5:18).**

Peace And Unrest



"WHEREFORE BE YE NOT UNWISE, BUT UNDERSTANDING
WHAT THE WILL OF THE LORD IS." — EPH. 5: 17