

John 13:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And supper being ended, the devil having now put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him;

Analysis

And supper being ended (καὶ δείπνου γινομένου)—More literally "supper being in progress" or "while supper was happening." This is the Passover meal (or the meal immediately preceding it, depending on Synoptic/Johannine chronology). The context is intimate fellowship before betrayal.

The devil having now put into the heart of Judas Iscariot (τοῦ διαβόλου ἤδη βεβληκότος εἰς τὴν καρδίαν)—The perfect tense "having put" (βεβληκότος/beblēkotos) indicates Satan had already planted the intention to betray. Luke 22:3 says "Satan entered into Judas," showing satanic agency behind the betrayal. Yet Judas remained morally responsible—Satan exploited Judas's greed and disillusionment but didn't override his will.

To betray him (ἵνα παραδῷ αὐτόν)—The verb paradidōmi (παραδῶ) means to hand over, deliver up, betray. It's used of Judas's betrayal, the Father's giving the Son (Romans 8:32), and Jesus's willing self-surrender (Galatians 2:20). Judas's evil act became part of God's sovereign plan—divine sovereignty and human responsibility mysteriously intertwined.

Historical Context

Judas had been stealing from the disciples' money bag (John 12:6) and objected to Mary's "wasteful" anointing of Jesus (John 12:4-5). His disillusionment may have stemmed from Jesus's refusal to establish an earthly kingdom. Satan exploited

these sinful attitudes. Church history debates Judas's motives—greed, political disappointment, or satanic possession—but Scripture emphasizes both satanic influence and Judas's moral culpability. Acts 1:25 says Judas "fell away" to his "own place," implying genuine apostasy.

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How does Satan exploit human weakness and sinful desires to accomplish his purposes, and how can we guard against this?
2. What does Judas's betrayal teach about the danger of unrepentant sin and hardened hearts even in proximity to Jesus?
3. How do we reconcile God's sovereign plan (the cross was predetermined, Acts 2:23) with Judas's genuine guilt and moral responsibility?

Interlinear Text

καὶ	δείπνου	γενομένου,	τοῦ	διαβόλου	ἤδη	
And	supper	being ended	G3588	the devil	having now	
G2532	G1173	G1096		G1228	G2235	
βεβληκότος	εἰς	τὴν	καρδίαν	Ἰούδα	Σίμωνος	Ἰσκαριώτου
put	into	G3588	the heart	of Judas	Simon's	Iscaiot
G906	G1519		G2588	G2455	G4613	G2469
ἵνα	αὐτὸν	παραδῶ,				
son to	him	betray				
G2443	G846	G3860				

Additional Cross-References

Acts 5:3 (Parallel theme): But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land?

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