

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 ἥδη 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 (ἴνα παραδῷ αὐτόν)—The verb paradidōmi (παραδῷ) 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 ἥδη
And supper being ended the devil having now
G2532 G1173 G1096 G3588 G1228 G2235

βεβληκότος εἰς τὴν καρδίαν Ἰούδα Σίμωνος Ἰσκαριώτου
put into the heart of Judas Simon's Iscariot
G906 G1519 G3588 G2588 G2455 G4613 G2469

ἵνα αὐτὸν παραδῷ,
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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