

John 13:30

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

He then having received the sop went immediately out: and it was night.

Analysis

He then having received the sop went immediately out (ἐξῆλθεν εὐθύς, exēlthen euthys)—the adverb euthys (immediately, at once) appears 51 times in the Gospels, always denoting urgency. Judas's instant departure after receiving Satan shows how demonic possession drives toward destruction. He exits the light of Christ's presence into literal and spiritual darkness.

And it was night (ἡν δὲ νύξ, ēn de nyx)—John's stark, four-word sentence carries profound symbolism. Literally, Passover meals occurred after sunset. Spiritually, Judas departed the Light of the World (John 8:12) into the dominion of darkness (Luke 22:53, Colossians 1:13). Night represents ignorance, evil, and separation from God (John 9:4, Romans 13:12). Judas chose darkness.

Historical Context

Passover lambs were slaughtered at twilight (Exodus 12:6, 'between the evenings'), and the meal eaten after dark. Jerusalem's narrow streets would be dangerous at night, yet Judas navigated them to betray Jesus. The timing fulfilled Scripture—Jesus would die the next day (Preparation Day) as the true Passover Lamb when lambs were being slaughtered (John 19:14).

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. How does John's phrase 'it was night' symbolize Judas's spiritual condition beyond just the time of day?
2. What does Judas's immediate departure teach about how sin, once fully embraced, drives us away from Christ?
3. Are there areas of your life where you're choosing darkness over the light of Christ's presence?

Interlinear Text

λαβὼν	οὖν	τὸ	ψωμίον	ἐκεῖνος	εὐθέως	ἐξῆλθεν
having received	then	G3588	the sop	He	immediately	out
G2983	G3767		G5596	G1565	G2112	G1831
ἦν	δὲ	νύξ				
it was	and	night				
G2258	G1161	G3571				

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 59:7 (Parallel theme): Their feet run to evil, and they make haste to shed innocent blood: their thoughts are thoughts of iniquity; wasting and destruction are in their paths.