

# Mark 14:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Judas Iscariot, one of the twelve, went unto the chief priests, to betray him unto them.

## Analysis

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**Judas Iscariot, one of the twelve** (Ἰούδας Ἰσκαριώθ, εἰς τῶν δώδεκα, Ioudas Iskariōth, heis tōn dōdeka)—Mark's emphasis on "one of the twelve" underscores the tragedy. Not an outsider but an intimate disciple betrayed Jesus. The name Iscariot likely means "man of Kerioth," a Judean town, making Judas the only non-Galilean disciple. **Went unto the chief priests, to betray him** (παραδοῖ αὐτὸν, paradoi auton)—the verb παραδίδωμι (paradidōmi) means "hand over" or "deliver up," used repeatedly in passion narratives.

Judas took initiative—he "went" seeking opportunity. This wasn't impulsive reaction but calculated decision. The chief priests didn't approach Judas; Judas approached them. Mark places this immediately after the anointing (vv. 3-9), creating stark contrast: the woman gave extravagantly; Judas sold cheaply. She loved much; he loved money. Her act memorialized forever; his name synonymous with treachery. Judas's betrayal fulfills Scripture (Psalm 41:9) while demonstrating human culpability—divine sovereignty and human responsibility coexist.

## Historical Context

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The chief priests (ἀρχιερεῖς) were the high priest's family and leaders of the Sadducean party who controlled the temple. They had plotted to kill Jesus (v. 1) but feared popular uprising during Passover when Jerusalem swelled from 50,000 to 250,000+ pilgrims. Judas solved their problem—an insider could identify Jesus for nighttime arrest away from crowds. Matthew 26:15 specifies Judas received

thirty pieces of silver, fulfilling Zechariah 11:12-13. This was the price of a slave (Exodus 21:32), showing how cheaply Judas valued the Son of God.

## Related Passages

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**Psalm 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Study Questions

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1. What warning does Judas—a disciple who followed Jesus for three years—provide about proximity to Christ versus genuine faith?
2. How does greed (love of money) blind spiritual perception and lead to horrific sin, even among religious people?
3. In what ways might we "betray" Christ through small compromises that culminate in great apostasy?

## Interlinear Text

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Kαὶ	ό	Ἰούδας	ό	Ἰσκαριώτης,	εἷς	τῶν	δώδεκα
<b>And</b>	G3588	<b>Judas</b>	G3588	<b>Iscariot</b>	<b>one</b>	G3588	<b>of the twelve</b>
G2532		G2455		G2469	G1520		G1427
ἀπῆλθεν	πρὸς	τοὺς	ἀρχιερεῖς	ἴνα	παραδῶ	αὐτοῖς	
<b>went</b>	<b>unto</b>	G3588	<b>the chief priests</b>	<b>to</b>	<b>betray</b>	<b>him</b>	
G565			G749	G2443	G3860		
αὐτοῖς							
<b>him</b>							
G846							

αὐτοῖς

**him**

G846

## Additional Cross-References

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**John 13:2** (Parallel theme): And supper being ended, the devil having now put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him;

**Psalms 41:9** (Parallel theme): Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up his heel against me.

**Matthew 10:4** (Parallel theme): Simon the Canaanite, and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed him.

**John 13:30** (Parallel theme): He then having received the sop went immediately out: and it was night.