

# Judas the Betrayer

---

*March 6      Read: Galatians 2:20,21      Fernando Ibarra*

I was born into a family of believers. My parents were part of a great spiritual nation that valued faith and tradition. So I lived and followed these things all my life because I value them too, following the teachings of the great master of Scripture.

I grew up to become a successful businessman and embraced new challenges. Jesus came into our midst. His kindness and good heart caught my eye and his teachings turned my whole being into turmoil. I couldn't get enough of him. He noticed me in the crowd and called me to be one of the twelve. The opportunity of service was there and I was given the task of keeping our monies.

I did not feel as close to Jesus as Peter or John. I felt left out and jealous. Jealousy followed covetousness, and then greed followed covetousness. One day our master talked about leaving and giving us more responsibilities. He talked of personal sacrifice (even to death) and abandonment to God the Father. His teachings became more radical and our religious leaders felt threatened. I was frightened.

My fear of death led me to be disloyal and I created a plot to betray him for a few coins. My actions contributed to his sacrifice on the cross - the cross, where he rescued and healed the soul of sinners; but for me, eternal condemnation. I hope and pray that none of my actions ever imitate Judas Iscariot but rather that they may show Jesus in Me.

***Prayer: I think I live my own life way too easily.  
Remind me again, Lord that I have been crucified  
with Christ. As surely as Christ lives in me, help  
me to live in the love and trust of Jesus my Savior.  
AMEN***

---