

**Title:** The Portrait of a False Disciple

**Passage:** Mark 14:10-11

**Context of Passage:** Mark 14:1-11

It was now two days before the Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread. And the chief priests and the scribes were seeking how to arrest him by stealth and kill him, for they said, "Not during the feast, lest there be an uproar from the people."

And while he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he was reclining at table, a woman came with an alabaster flask of ointment of pure nard, very costly, and she broke the flask and poured it over his head. There were some who said to themselves indignantly, "Why was the ointment wasted like that? For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii and given to the poor." And they scolded her. But Jesus said, "Leave her alone. Why do you trouble her? She has done a beautiful thing to me. For you always have the poor with you, and whenever you want, you can do good for them. But you will not always have me. She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for burial. And truly, I say to you, wherever the gospel is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in memory of her."

Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went to the chief priests in order to betray him to them. And when they heard it, they were glad and promised to give him money. And he sought an opportunity to betray him.

## EXPOSITION

### Introduction

There are people who think they are a Christian but who don't have an actual relationship with Christ.

#### 2 Corinthians 13:5

Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Or do you not realize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you fail to meet the test!

#### Matthew 7:21-23 (Sermon on the Mount)

"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?' And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.'

### *Categories of Christians*

- nominal, progressive, false, true

#### *1. Nominal*

- people who are "Christian" in name (born into a certain family or culture)
- Don't know what's in the Bible or basic truths of Christianity

#### John 6:66-69

After this many of his disciples turned back and no longer walked with him. So Jesus said to the twelve, "Do you want to go away as well?" Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life, and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God."

#### *2. Progressive*

- People who know the Bible do not believe in the inerrancy of God's Word. They only cherry-pick portions of the Bible that they like and not all of it.
- What used to be called "sin" isn't called "sin" today. (Ex: adultery, homosexuality)
- Fail to submit to the entirety of God's Word. Essentially put yourself in God's shoes choosing what is truth and what is not.

- Contrast: Truth never changes. Truth is Jesus Christ and His Word. Truth is timeless and the same everywhere. You need to subject yourself under it, not be over it. You need to adjust your life to God's Word, not adjust God's Word to you.

### 3. False

- Ex: Judas Iscariot
- Appear to be a "good" Christian

### 4. True

## Overview

Portrait of False Disciple:

- Intellectual assent to right theology
- Performs the works of a Christian
- Lover of self and money
- Doesn't bear fruit of the Spirit

## I. Intellectual Assent to Right Theology

- Judas followed Jesus for three years. He saw Jesus' miracles (make lame walk, calming sea, raising dead, etc.). He heard all of Jesus teaching and saw His character through His deeds.
- But never fully surrendered to Jesus' theology.
- Be aware of Satan's temptations (Matthew 4) who twists God's Word
  - Satan agrees with the truth, but doesn't like when it is actually and correctly applied to one's life.

### James 2:19

You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder!

## II. Performs the Works of a Christian

- Judas was among the 70 that Jesus sent out in training to cast out demons and preach.

### Luke 10:1

After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to go.

### Luke 10:17

The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name!"

- Judas participated in feeding of the thousands by only little bread and fish.
- From an outside perspective, performs as one would expect of a Christian.
- But it is no different than the Pharisees (outside righteous but inside different).

### Matthew 23:27-28

Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs, which outwardly appear beautiful, but within are full of dead people's bones and all uncleanness. So you also outwardly appear righteous to others, but within you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.

## III. Lover of Self and Money

### Mark 14:4-5

There were some who said to themselves indignantly, "Why was the ointment wasted like that? For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii and given to the poor." And they scolded her.

### John 12:4-6 (parallel passage)

But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (he who was about to betray him), said, "Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" He said this, not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief, and having charge of the moneybag he used to help himself to what was put into it.

- Judas' motivations and intent were based on self and love of money.
- Judas was stealing all along.

### Mark 14:6 (Jesus rebukes Judas)

But Jesus said, "Leave her alone. Why do you trouble her? She has done a beautiful thing to me.

- First recorded dispute between Judas and Jesus.
- Judas, in turn, decides to reject Jesus with growing tension. Perhaps Judas realizes he could no longer hide his stealing from the collective moneybag.

### Mark 14:10-11

Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went to the chief priests in order to betray him to them. And when they heard it, they were glad and promised to give him money. And he sought an opportunity to betray him.

### Matthew 26:14-16

Then one of the twelve, whose name was Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, "What will you give me if I deliver him over to you?" And they paid him thirty pieces of silver. And from that moment he sought an opportunity to betray him.

- 30 pieces of silver = price of Jesus life = price of a slave

### Exodus 21:32

If the ox gores a slave, male or female, the owner shall give to their master thirty shekels of silver, and the ox shall be stoned.

- 30 pieces of silver = worth of a slave's life

### *Love of Money*

- great hurdle for people to follow Christ.

### Matthew 19:20-22 (rich, young man)

The young man said to him, "All these I have kept. What do I still lack?" Jesus said to him, "If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." When the young man heard this he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.

- Contrast: Do you believe heaven is worth everything you are and have?

### Luke 9:23

And he said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.

### Matthew 10:39

Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

### Admonitions for all

#### 1 Timothy 6:6-12

But godliness with contentment is great gain, for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the

love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs. But as for you, O man of God, flee these things. Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

#### 1 Timothy 6:17-19

As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.

- pay attention to your heart.
- put your trust in God, not in your material possessions.
- Wealth = if you have money to spare, you are in the top 5% of the entire world.
  - God is referring to all of us
- Question: do you trust in your wealth?
  - Don't want more than what you have.
  - Don't trust in your money and in your self rather than God.
- "It takes a steady hand to hold a full cup."
  - The more you have, the more careful you should be.
  - Stay focused on God and honor Him. Trust God for the future.

#### Proverbs 30:7-9

Two things I ask of you; deny them not to me before I die: Remove far from me falsehood and lying; give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with the food that is needful for me, lest I be full and deny you and say, "Who is the LORD?" or lest I be poor and steal and profane the name of my God.

#### Matthew 19:24

Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God.

- Meaning: it is impossible if you put your trust in your material possessions to fully trust Jesus and know what the Gospel is.
- Thinking you need Jesus plus something else is not the Gospel. The Gospel is Jesus alone!

#### **IV. Doesn't Bear the Fruit of the Spirit.**

- A false discipline cannot manufacture the fruit of the Spirit out of own effort.

*Parable of Soils* (see third type)

#### Mark 4:7

Other seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it, and it yielded no grain.

#### Mark 4:18-19

And others are the ones sown among thorns. They are those who hear the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches and the desires for other things enter in and choke the word, and it proves unfruitful.

- third appears to come to life but proves unfruitful.
- There is no genuine relationship with Jesus from the heart.

Point: you can always manufacture the work of the spirit (do things that seem Christian-like) but you cannot genuinely manufacture the fruit of the Holy Spirit on your own

#### Galatians 5:22-23

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

- the only way that can change you from within is by the Holy Spirit working within you.
- This is not about perfection, but key question: is there growth?
- The only way to generate fruit is by abiding in the Vine.

#### John 15:5

I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

You can never be right with God by virtue of your background or anyone else but you.

- Christianity is a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.
- Begins only with moment in your life that God is holy and you are not right with Him. You will be punished for your sins. Only way to be saved is asking Jesus come into your life in a personal way. Thereafter, committed to live for Him, yet also trust in Him working in you.

#### Philippians 2:12-13

Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

#### Philippians 1:6

And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

### **Application**

*Be Cautious about Your Feelings*

- Submit yourself to God daily as you interact with His Word
- Do not rely on your own wisdom.

#### Proverbs 14:12-13

There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death. Even in laughter the heart may ache, and the end of joy may be grief.

*Come to Christ; don't reject Him!*

#### John 13:5

Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

- Judas was among whose feet that Jesus washed.

*Examine yourself*

#### 2 Corinthians 13:5

Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Or do you not realize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you fail to meet the test!

#### John 8:31-32

So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."