



***Diabolos* in 2 Tim 3:3; Demon Influence & Demon Possession; Judas & the 3 Arrogant Skills: Analysis of Problem Passages, John 6:70; Luke 22:3; John 13:2**

**2 Timothy 3:1** - Now you must know this doctrine, that in the last days [ **at the end of the Church Age or the Tribulation; or before the destruction of a nation under the fifth cycle of discipline; or the sin unto death for an individual believer** ] hard times [ **disaster as a result of rejection of God** ] will be imminent.

**v. 2** - For believers [ **who reject rebound and are in perpetual carnality** ] will be lovers of self, lovers of money [ **monetary reversionism** ], boastful, arrogant, slanderers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, wicked,

**v. 3** - unloving [ **no reciprocal love motivation toward God or impersonal love for all mankind** ], implacable [ **as a result of bitterness** ], malicious adversary [ **διάβολος / *diabolos* / "devil": adversary; witness for the defense in the appeal trial of Satan** ], without self-control, brutal, haters of good,

**v. 4** - resulting in behavior that is treacherous, thoughtless, conceited; lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God,

**v. 5** - holding to an external, superficial form of the spiritual life but having denied its power. Consequently, avoid such persons as these [ **reversionistic believers** ].

- 50- It must be remembered that "Devil" is not a proper name of the ruler of this world. His real name is Lucifer. However, he is also known by the terms, Devil and Satan.
- 51- But these are not names but titles. The word **διάβολος / *diabolos*** / means adversary; in the legal context it refers to one who opposes in a courtroom. Lucifer opposes Jesus Christ as his own defense attorney in his appeal trial.
- 52- The word **Σατανᾶς / *Satanas*** / is taken from the Hebrew noun, **שָׂטָן / *Satan*** / . It is synonymous with *diabolos*.
- 53- Lucifer is an adversary to Jesus Christ. As a result he was given legal titles to describe his function in the appeal trial. Consequently, any who oppose Jesus Christ qualify to receive this appellation to describe them. Therefore, Judas Iscariot was an adversary of Jesus Christ and as a result is a devil: *diabolos*, just like the reversionistic believers in Timothy's church.
- 54- Where for Lucifer, *diabolos* or "devil" is a title, for Judas Iscariot it is an antonomasia: a figure of speech that applies a famous name to a person alleged to share some quality associated with it. That common quality is adversary.
- 55- And how did Judas acquire this common quality with Lucifer? Prolonged carnality without rebound results in the development of the three arrogant skills which eventually give mental assent to demon influence.
- 56- We now need to distinguish between demon influence and demon possession.

**G. Demon Influence & Demon Possession:**

- 1- Demon possession is the demonic invasion of the body of an unbeliever only.
- 2- By contrast, demon influence is the demonic invasion of the believer's soul with satanic thought.
- 3- This is the "the snare of the devil, having been held captive by him to do his will" referred to in 2 Timothy 2:26. It does not relate to the body but to the soul.



- 4- Because of monetary lust, Judas was vulnerable. Because of his lust for high position in the kingdom he was attracted to the Lord. Because the Lord disappointed him, Judas entered into Crusader arrogance which led him to later cut a deal with the Sanhedrin.
- 5- This inversion was manipulated by Satan who held Judas captive in his thinking through the doctrines of demons.

**1 Timothy 4:1** - The Holy Spirit explicitly says that in the later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits [in this case Lucifer himself] and doctrines of demons [demon influence].

- 6- Demon influence is the invasion of the stream of consciousness but the believer's body can never be possessed by a demon because of the ministries of the Holy Spirit.
- 7- We have learned from Matthew 10:20 that all the disciples had the enduement of the Holy Spirit including Judas and believers of every dispensation are impervious to demon possession.
- 8- But any believer can fall under the control of demons, and in the case of Judas, Lucifer himself, when he resides too long in the cosmic system.
- 9- In John 6:70, the Lord identifies Judas as already under the influence of Satan's influence and thus called Judas, "a devil."
- 10- The Lord does not infer that Judas is Satan possessed but rather he calls him "a devil": **διάβολος / diabolos**: "an adversary."
- 11- Peter was at one point under satanic influence. Peter rebuked the Lord following the events on the Transfiguration when Jesus spoke of His death:

**Matthew 16:21** - From that time Jesus Christ began to show His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and be raised up on the third day.

**v. 22** - And Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This shall never happen to You."

**v. 23** - But Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind Me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to Me; for you are not setting your mind on God's interests but man's interests."

- 12- Peter wanted to stop the Lord from going to the cross. He wanted Him to set up the kingdom immediately. Peter wanted the Lord to rule Israel and deliver it from Roman control. So did Judas Iscariot!
- 13- But! No one considers from this passage that Peter was Satan possessed. The Lord called Judas "an adversary." Here the Lord calls Peter an adversary as well but he uses the title **Σατανᾶς / Satanas** / rather than **διάβολος / diabolos** / . Same thing!
- 14- Peter rebounded. Judas did not. As a result, Judas continues his slide into reversion and toward the sin unto death.

#### H. Judas's & the Three Arrogant Skills:

- 1- Judas Iscariot, motivated by monetary lust had a trend to acquire money and to steal it if necessary. We learned this from the passage in which Mary anointed the feet of the Lord with very expensive perfume. Judas was upset about this but hid the reason why behind a rhetorical veil:



**John 12:4** - Judas Iscariot, one of the disciples, who was intending to betray Him said,

**v. 5** - "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii, and given to the poor?"

**v. 6** - Now he said this, not because he was concerned about the poor, but because he was a thief, and as he had the money box, he used to pilfer what was put into it.

- 2- One of Satan's major tactics to disguise his duplicity and deceit is the use of a rhetorical veil to conceal while he advances his hidden agenda.
- 3- Judas's rhetorical veil was to take the perfume, sell it, and give the money to the poor. His hidden agenda was to steal the money for himself.
- 4- This chronic sin made him vulnerable to human viewpoint and evil that expressed itself in the three arrogant skills.
- 5- Judas believed that Jesus was the Messiah and was pleased to join the Lord's ministry because he was convinced that the kingdom reign would be set up immediately.
- 6- When it became apparent that the Lord did not intend to do this, Judas became bitter. He reacted along with the other disciples who also expected to be set free from Rome by following Jesus.

**John 6:70** - Jesus answered them, "Did I Myself not choose you, the twelve, and yet one of you is an adversary?"

**v. 71** - Now He meant Judas the son of Simon Iscariot, for he, one of the twelve, was going to betray Him.

- 7- Judas nurtured a jealous attitude toward the Roman Empire that he believed held an unjust advantage over the Jewish people. This developed into an implacable bitterness toward Rome. The system was wrong and Messiah Jesus would set things right.
- 8- This resulted in self-deception as Judas became convinced that Jesus was in the process of setting up His kingdom immediately.
- 9- Both monetary lust and crusader arrogance drove Judas into self-absorption. He became convinced he would play a major role in making things right by aligning himself with the Lord and as a reward would be appointed Secretary of Treasury in the millennial government.
- 10- This was a house of cards because it was not based on doctrine but human viewpoint and personal aggrandizement. The house tumbled when it became apparent to Judas that the Lord was not going to set up the kingdom but rather submit to what he believed to be a martyr complex. This further angered Judas.

**Matthew 20:17** - As Jesus was about to go up to Jerusalem, He took the twelve disciples aside by themselves and on the way He said to them,

**v. 18** - "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem; and the Son of Man will be delivered [ παραδίδομι / *paradidomi* / **betrayed** ] to the chief priests and scribes, and they will condemn Him to death,

**v. 19** - and will deliver Him to the Gentiles to mock and scourge and crucify Him, and on the third day He will be raised up."



- 11- This announcement by Jesus that He would not pursue the kingdom but rather submit to a martyr's death enraged Judas and he entered into intensified bitterness which reverses the cycle of the three arrogant skills.
- 12- Judas's self-absorption now directs his bitterness toward the Lord Jesus Christ who has disappointed him, let him down, failed him. This bitterness involves disenchantment with the One on whom Judas depended to bring about the political solution he had so fervently supported.
- 13- Driven by self-deception, Judas believed he could put this plan back on track by forcing the Lord to challenge the establishment authorities of Jerusalem and subsequently Rome. This opportunity was about to present itself.

**Matthew 26:3** - Then the chief priests and the elders of the people were gathered together in the court of the high priest, named Caiaphas;

**v. 4** - and they plotted together to seize Jesus by stealth, and kill Him.

**v. 5** - But they were saying, "Not during the festival, lest a riot occur among the people."

- 14- The reason the Jewish authorities wanted to "seize Jesus by stealth" was because they feared His popularity among the people would cause a riot if they arrested him in a public place. They wanted to find a way to arrest him outside Jerusalem and with fewer people in town. To do this they knew they would have to wait until after Passover. What happened next changed their minds:

**Luke 22:1** - Now the Feast of Unleavened Bread, which is called the Passover, was approaching.

**Luke 21:2** - And the chief priests and the scribes were seeking how they might put Jesus to death; for they were afraid of the people.

**v. 3** - And Satan entered into Judas who was called Iscariot, belonging to the number of the twelve.

- 15- Here the word "Satan" does refer to the ruler of this world. In the English translation it appears that Judas has now become Satan possessed. But has he?
- 16- Demon possession of an unbeliever occurs when over a period of time the person is fully indoctrinated by means of demon influence and it happens instantly.
- 17- Demon influence and in Judas's case, Satan influence, occurred gradually as he moved through the reverse order of the three arrogant skills. It is here that we find Satan's manipulation beginning to take over control of Judas's soul.
- 18- In the phrase, "Satan entered into Judas," the preposition "into" is **εἰς / eis /** and denotes motion toward an object with the purpose of reaching, touching, or influencing it.
- 19- Judas kept giving mental assent to Satan and Satan was taking full advantage of it. Here we see the Adversary-in-chief motivate his adversary-de-camp to meet with the Sanhedrin to plot the betrayal of the Lord.

**Luke 22:4** - And Judas went away and discussed with the chief priests and officers how he might betray Jesus to them.

**v. 5** - And they were glad and agreed to give Judas money [ **30 pieces of silver, cp., Matthew 26:15** ].



v. 6 - And he consented, and began seeking a good opportunity to betray Jesus to them apart from the multitude.

- 20- Lucifer's absorption of Judas's soul continues as the evening wears on. After cutting his deal with the Sanhedrin, Judas joins the Lord and his fellow apostles at the home of John Mark for the last Passover. Here we discover that Satan is gaining a steady progression of influence over Judas.

**John 13:2** - And during supper, the devil, having already put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon to betray Him ...

- 21- This verse indicates that Judas is locked into the deed that he contracted with the Jewish authorities to perform. It does not say that the devil possessed Judas but that he "put into his heart to betray Jesus."
- 22- Judas is now back at self-justification under intensified bitterness. He has sold out the Lord and intends to carry forward his plan.
- 23- He believes if he can force a confrontation between the Lord and the Jewish and Roman establishment in Jerusalem that Jesus will be forced to go on the offensive.
- 24- The "devil" has put this into his "heart," that is, Judas's stream of consciousness. Satanic viewpoint now controls his soul.
- 25- However, at no point does the Lord react to what he knows is taking place. Instead He responds by offering Judas an opportunity to rebound.