

Betrayed!

by Wayne Goff

Have you ever been **totally betrayed** by a close friend, family member, or someone in whom you had complete confidence? If so, then you have felt the **enormous pain and anguish** it causes. Sleepless nights, severe stomach pains, mental anguish over what could possibly have caused the betrayal. But none of that fixes it, or makes it go away.

We call such people a “Judas” because Judas Iscariot betrayed Jesus Christ, the only sinless person ever to walk the earth and for a mere pittance. If Judas ever truly **repented**, we do not know it. He did *regret* it and went out and hung himself when he could not undo the damage. And his name has gone down in historical infamy! Nobody, and I mean **NOBODY**, wants to be called “Judas Iscariot.” Even Jesus, the lover and benefactor of all mankind, declared that it would have been better had he never been born! **Mark 14:21**

David felt the horrible pain of being betrayed by his own son, Absalom! Absalom was a schemer and a true narcissist. If you doubt it, go back and read **2 Samuel 13-15**. Like all good politicians, he curried the favor of Israel by promising them anything they desired (**2 Sam. 15:3-6**). Then when the time was right, he rebelled against his father and tried to steal away the kingdom! In spite of all that, when Absalom was caught and killed, David mourned deeply over his son (**2 Sam. 13:33**). Even as a father, I marvel over his love for Absalom. Could I do that if my son betrayed me?!

King David was also **betrayed** by his faithful counselor, Ahithophel. His counsel was excellent, even when it went against David (**2 Sam. 16:23**)! But God defeated the advice of Ahithophel when he aided Absalom, and so Ahithophel went out and hung himself rather than face King David in his betrayal (**2 Sam. 17:23**)!

Dear reader, do not ever become a “Judas” to the Cause of Christ! The Hebrew writer said that those who turned their backs on the truth and the kingdom of God “*crucified to themselves the Son of God afresh and put Him to an open shame!*” (**Heb. 6:6, KJV**). That is what brethren today are doing when they try to **modernize** their theology to comport with current trends. Glorifying in their shame may well describe their actions, but as Paul wrote “*whose end is destruction, and whose god is their belly*” (**Phil. 3:19**).

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