

News & Notes

Sunday, December 21, 2008

Remember in Prayer: Daryl Alberson; David Anderson; Arland Anderson; Mary Bailey; Bobby Byrd; Mary Childers; Lettie Mae Hunt; Dot Ketchum; John and Deliah Mann; Diane Mize; Wayne Orman; Ann Ray; Brandon Ray; Austin Robinson; Katherine Shaw; Gary Spence; Jamie Spence; Calvin Ursery; Joan Wilkerson; Alvie Williford; Louise Williford;

Pantry item for the month of December is trash bags.

The **mid-week service** this week will be on Tuesday, December 23 at 7:00 PM.

Our website is updated weekly. For those with internet access, be sure and check it out at www.ashlandcoc.org.

Be sure to check the **bulletin boards** in the foyer for any additional information or announcements.

Ashland Events: Today: Prayer meeting at 4:00 PM;

Sermon in Preview:

AM: Putting it All Together

PM: Special service led by young men.

For the Record (December 14, 2008):

Attendance: 76 Contribution: \$1345.00 Budget: \$1452.00

The Ashland Church of Christ

P. O. Box 25
Ashland, MS 38603-0025
www.ashlandcoc.org
acoc@ashlandcoc.org

Sunday:

Bible Study 9:30 AM
Worship 10:30 AM
Worship 5:00 PM

Wednesday:

Bible Study 7:00 PM

Shepherds:

Barney King
Jeff Roberson
Carrol Street

Romans 11:33

ASHLAND ANNOUNCER

Increasing in the Knowledge of God



You Say – God Says

Author Unknown

You say: "It's impossible"

God says: "All things are possible" (Luke 18:27)

You say: "I'm too tired"

God says: "I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28-30)

You say: "Nobody really loves me:"

God says: "I love you" (John 3:16 and John 3:34)

You say: "I can't go on"

God says: "My grace is sufficient" (2Corinthians 12:9 and Psalm 91:15)

You say: "I can't figure things out"

God says: "I will direct your steps" (Proverbs 3:5-6)

You say: "I can't do it"

God says: "You can do all things" (Philippians 4:13)

You say: "I'm not able"

God says: "I am able" (2Corinthians 9:8)

You say: "It's not worth it"

God says: "It will be worth it" (Roman 8:28)

You say: "I can't forgive myself"

God says: "I Forgive you" (1John 1:9 and Romans 8:1)

You say: "I can't manage"

God says: "I will supply all your needs" (Philippians 4:19)

You say: "I'm afraid"

God says: "I have not given you a spirit of fear" (2Timothy 1:7)

You say: "I'm always worried and frustrated"

God says: "Cast all your cares on ME" (1Peter 5:7)

You say: "I feel all alone"

God says: "I will never leave you or forsake you" (Hebrews 13:5)

"It Was Night"

Jeremy Northrop

The name, character, and person of Judas live in infamy. Many people who do not know a great deal about the Bible generally know who Judas was and what he did. His name is so marred that most people will not use it to name their children because of its negative connotation. Judas? He betrayed our Lord for 30 pieces of silver!

John 13:18-30 records the events leading up to the betrayal of Judas. These events and the actual recording of the betrayal itself have some interesting details. Many of the details leave some very vivid implications and reasons people ought to be concerned about their own spiritual well-being.

Of course, the narrative of John 13 is not the first time one reads of Judas and his dishonesty. In John 12:1-8, a person may read that Judas was upset with Mary, the sister of Lazarus, because she was using costly perfume to anoint the feet of Jesus. While he stated the reason for his concern was that the

perfume could have been sold and the money given to the poor, the text tells us the real reason Judas was upset. In John 12:6, the Bible says, "This he said, not that he cared for the poor, but because he was a thief, and had the money box; and he used to take what was put in it." Many have made the observation that Judas did not just wake up one day and decide to betray Jesus. Rather, the path of greed started much earlier with his thoughts and led him to the betrayal of Jesus.

One person made the observation concerning the amount for which Judas betrayed Jesus. Historically, it was not a great amount of money. Some have observed that it was the price of a common slave (Exodus 21:32). The implication is that Judas did not think any more of Jesus Christ than he thought of a common slave. It is a telling statement of just how far some will go for a little sum of money. John 18:1-2 shows that the place where Jesus was to be betrayed was a place that He went to often. His disciples also went to the garden often. Judas, one of His disciples, was not just some mere acquaintance to Christ. He was a close friend – one who betrayed his friend, his Savior, for just 30 pieces of silver.

Another interesting point is the chronology of the events. In Matthew 26:25, Judas asked Jesus if it was him who would betray Him. He had already sealed the deal in verses 14-16. Judas asked Christ if he was the one to betray Him knowing it was the case. The extent to which a greedy person will go for money and prominence can indeed be great.

The last three words of John 13:30 are powerful: "...it was night." Judas shows that when a person conspires to do evil, that person is in darkness spiritually. The comparison of darkness and light to sin and righteousness are seen in the actions of Judas. When men sin, for them it is night — spiritually, morally, and perhaps even physically. Yes, it is the gloomy evening of the dark shadow of night. How do Christians avoid the darkness? They must walk in the light. 1John 1:7 says, "But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin."