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John 13 - Part II Is it I?

This night is the conclusion of this phase of the Ministry of the Son of God, when Jesus was daily with his disciples, and ministering among the people. **Luke 22:14-15:** *14. And when the hour was come, he sat down, and the twelve apostles with him. 15. And he said unto them, With desire [longing] I have desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer:* Why did Jesus emphasize a longing to eat this final Passover meal with his disciples?

Matthew, Mark and Luke recorded three things about this event: 1) Jesus gave the symbols of the bread and wine; 2) revealed his betrayer; and 3) and that Peter would deny him. In John's writings, however, there are five chapters devoted to some very important things that Jesus related to his disciples in the same night. John stated the overall purpose of his writing: **John 20:30-31:** *30. Many indeed, therefore, other signs (metaphors) also did Jesus before his disciples, that are not written in this book; 31. and these have been written that ye may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing ye may have life in his name (character).'* (YLT more accurate to the original). The teachings today of the vast majority actually deny that Jesus is the Son of God, and the One anointed (Christ) by the Father. John devoted three key chapters (14-16) that clearly explain these things, when one can lay aside their current beliefs and consider, with an open mind, what the scriptures actually say. This idea of Jesus being the anointed One, the actual Son of God, will be the heart of what has been popularized from John's writings, as the battle of Armageddon.

John 13:21-26: *21. When Jesus had thus said, he was troubled in spirit, and testified, and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, that one of you shall betray me. 22. Then the disciples looked one on another, doubting of whom he spake. 23. Now there was leaning on Jesus' bosom one of his disciples, whom Jesus loved. 24. Simon Peter therefore beckoned to him, that he should ask who it should be of whom he spake. 25. He then lying on Jesus' breast saith unto him, Lord, who is it? 26. Jesus answered, He it is, to whom I shall give a sop, when I have dipped it. And when he had dipped the sop, he gave it to Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon.*

By the second year of his ministry, Jesus began to tell his disciples that one of them would betray him. John mentions it: **John 6:70-71:** *70. Jesus answered them, Have not I chosen you twelve, and one of you is a devil? 71. He spake of Judas Iscariot the son of Simon: for he it was that should betray him, being one of the twelve.* John, writing after the fact, identifies Judas as the betrayer, whom Jesus called a *devil*. According to verse 22, above, the disciples did not actually know who the betrayer was until that night. Why would Jesus not reveal his identity before? It makes sense that Jesus did not know either, but his Father revealed that one would betray, but not who. Think about it - Jesus was human, and encountered all the types of temptations as do we. What if one of your friends shared with you that another close friend really hated you, but was nice to your face because they were using you in some way? If you believed what they told you, how would you treat that person after knowing it? If I were a disciple and knew that one of my group would betray Jesus, it would cause me to be on guard, and examine self and my motives. Judas was living a lie as a thief and a betrayer of Jesus. **1John 2:22:** *Who is a liar but he that denies that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist (against the anointed One), that denies the Father and the Son.* Anyone denying the Son of God, also denies the Father - they are antichrist, or a betrayer of Christ.

John 13:27-29: 27. *And after the sop Satan entered into him. Then said Jesus unto him, That you do, do quickly.* 28. *Now no man at the table knew for what intent he spake this unto him.* 29. *For some of them thought, because Judas had the bag, that Jesus had said unto him, Buy those things that we have need of against the feast; or, that he should give something to the poor.*

When there are 13 people sitting at a table, as were the disciples, likely they all heard different parts of what was said, but not all of it. Then, writing years after the event, they would recall what they remembered, as the Holy Spirit prompted them. As we examine what they wrote, we can reconstruct much of an event. Mark said, after Jesus announced his betrayal, **Mark 14:19:** *And they began to be sorrowful, and to say unto him one by one, Is it I? and another said, Is it I? And Matthew adds, Matthew 26:25: Then Judas, which betrayed him, answered and said, Master, is it I? He said unto him, Thou hast said.* John may not have heard Jesus' answer to Judas, but heard Jesus identify his betrayer as the one to whom he gave the sop.

Satan entered into him: From past studies, *satan* is a Hebrew word meaning *adversary*, and it is not a proper noun. In Revelation 12:9, the *serpent* is called *devil* and *satan*. The proper meaning of the Greek word rendered as *entered* ^(g1525) is, *to come, to go*. It is used figuratively as *to enter any state or condition, to arise, come into existence, to begin to be*. After Jesus exposed Judas as the betrayer, the adversarial thoughts Judas had never purged, *arose* within himself, and he promptly left the meeting. Jesus, in John 6:70, called Judas a *devil* ^(g1228), a *diabolos*, the Greek word for *adversary*. Figuratively, it is the serpent, or the whisperer, that will arise in the heart of anyone refusing to acknowledge the truth, or to allow Jesus to heal them inwardly. This will result by them becoming an adversary toward Christ.

John 13:30: *He then having received the sop went immediately out: and it was night.* At Passover, unleavened bread and bitter herbs were to be eaten (Exodus 12:8). **Exodus 1:14:** *And they made their lives bitter with hard bondage, in mortar, and in brick, and in all manner of service in the field: all their service, wherein they made them serve, was with rigor.* The bread Jesus gave to Judas, apparently, was dipped into a sauce of bitter herbs, a reminder to Israel of the bitterness of their bondage in Egypt. Today, we can discern spiritually that we are to eat bread from Christ, unleavened with men's opinions (brick connected by mortar). What Christ reveals to each will rid us of the bitterness we all carry for one reason or another. Judas, all along, refused to let Jesus remove the bitterness, and he went into darkness.

In order to fully understand the cross and let the concept soften a person's hard heart toward God and others, they must see and believe that Jesus is the actual Son of God - not a God role playing as the Son, nor a created being; but a Son birthed by God in eternity, and caused to be born through a human lineage.

1John 3:16: *Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.* The love of God can only be perceived in the heart with the correct understanding of why the Son of God lay down his life. Amen.