

SERMON STARTERS – Key words: Calvary, heart, disciples, Judas, revelations

CALVARY REVELATIONS

Matthew 26:1-16

Perhaps no geographical spot on earth reveals so much about God and man as the place called Calvary. Calvary, where the God-Man died temporarily that godless men might live eternally!

In Matthew 10:26, Jesus assures us that “there is nothing covered that will not be revealed, and hidden that will not be known.” That statement is in the context of future judgment when the secrets of men’s hearts will be revealed. However, at Calvary the attitudes and actions of some were openly revealed. Matthew 26 contains a passage of Scripture in which we see the hearts of five individuals or groups of individuals revealed. Note here the revelation of:

1. The Great Heart of God. (Vs.1-2)

“Now it came to pass, when Jesus had finished all these sayings, that He said to His disciples, “You know that after two days is the Passover, and the Son of Man will be delivered up to be crucified.”

2. The Evil Hearts of the Priests. (Vs. 3-5)

“Then the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders of the people assembled at the palace of the high priest, who was called Caiaphas, and plotted to take Jesus by trickery and kill Him. But they said, “Not during the feast, lest there be an uproar among the people.”

3. The True Heart of the Woman. (Vs. 6,7,10)

“And when Jesus was in Bethany at the house of Simon the leper, 7 a woman came to Him having an alabaster flask of very costly fragrant oil, and she poured it on His head as He sat at the table.”

4. The Calloused Hearts of the Disciples. (Vs.8-13)

“But when His disciples saw it, they were indignant, saying, “Why this waste? For this fragrant oil might have been sold for much and given to the poor.” But when Jesus was aware of it, He said to them, “Why do you trouble the woman? For she has done a good work for Me. For you have the poor with you always, but Me you do not have always. For in pouring this fragrant oil on My body, she did it for My burial. Assuredly, I say to you, wherever this gospel is preached in the whole world, what this woman has done will also be told as a memorial to her.”

5. The Hardened Heart Of Judas. (Vs.14-16)

“Then one of the twelve, called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests 15 and said, “What are you willing to give me if I deliver Him to you?” And they counted out to him thirty pieces of silver. 16 So from that time he sought opportunity to betray Him.”

The matter of the heart is always the heart of the matter. The hidden motives of all hearts will issue in actions. “The Lord is the God of knowledge; and by Him actions are weighed” (1 Samuel 2:3). Is your heart right with God?

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