

NSD Notes

For though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more. (1 Cor. 9:19)
Volume 2 No. 13 June 28, 2009

Services

- Bible Study 10 a.m.
- Morning Service.....11 a.m.
- Evening Service.....6 p.m.
- Wednesday Meeting.....7 p.m.

News @ NSD

WELCOME VISITORS!

Prayer List

- **Ernest Peeples** - deployed in Iraq.
- **Jason Henderson** – travels often for work.
- **Dema Franklin** – recovering from surgery.
- **Martha Holloway** - recurring back and heart condition.
- **Jana Wells** – recurring respiratory condition.
- Marie Adams – recovering at home from surgery.
- Jeanne Lynne – recovering from cancer treatments.
- **Vicki Barton’s** mother, Lisa - recovering from surgery.
- **Ken Holloway’s** brother, Chuck.
- Also keep **Cassandra Fredrickson** and **Samantha Wilson** in your prayers.

Member Birthdays

- 12th – Meredith Hoskins
- 13th – Danielle & Darcy Austin

THINK

B. J. Wilson

The sign, that hung directly above three police cars and two empty spaces proclaimed “Don’t even **THINK** about parking here.” I marveled at how precise, how definite it was. Half . . .Stop . . . Back Up.

The purpose of this article is to accentuate things we as Christians should not think about, never even consider.

Jesus called in a loud voice for the four-day-dead-and-buried Lazarus to come from the grave. The situation implies that resuscitation was absolutely not expected. Martha, the sister of Lazarus, told Jesus, “Lord by this time there is a stench, for he has been dead four days.” Nevertheless Jesus called: (**John 11:43-44**) “*Lazarus, come forth! And he who had died came out bound hand and foot with grave clothes.*”

This was make or break time for Jesus’ career. Here, however perilous to himself, He finally demonstrated whether he was sent from God. Or was boasting of a power he did not have.

Following the raising of Lazarus, (**Luke 22:2**) “*And the chief priests and scribes sought how they might kill him (Jesus).*” The seething, bitter jealousy of the Jewish rulers (Sanhedrin) had been growing in intensity in His two-and-a-half year ministry and had finally reached a peak. The Jewish leaders decided to do away with the thorn-in-their-side Jesus.

But [**They feared the people.**] The great mass of the people seem to have been convinced that Christ was at least a prophet sent from God; and it is likely they kept steady in their attachment to him. The multitude, who are represented as clamoring for his blood at the crucifixion, appear to have been a mere mob, formed out of the creatures of the chief priests and Pharisees. Lazarus’ raising seems to have created a do-or-die situation. But Jesus was nowhere to be found.

Shortly before the Passover, Jesus re-appeared in pilgrim-crowded Jerusalem. His teaching created great interest. It also stirred up much burning opposition. The Jewish rulers had previously decided to do away with Him. Now that he was back they would end the life of this Galilean Teacher quickly. The only thing that baffled them was how this could be done safely. Jesus was held in high esteem by the people, especially by the crowds of pilgrims then in Jerusalem for the Passover.

Judas was the weak one, the one that complained about the 300 pence (**John 12:5-6**). “*Why was this fragrant oil not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?*” *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.*” [**And he used to take what was put in it.**] Or rather, as some eminent critics contend, and stole what was put in it. Judas had a weakness for money.

Jesus had made certain remarks that pertained to Judas. “One of you is a devil.” Not merely a demon but a devil. Jesus washed the apostles’ feet and said “You are clean, but not all.” (**Matt. 26:21**) Now as they were eating, He said, “*Assuredly, I say to you, one of you will betray Me.*” →

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All are welcome to our worship
and study meetings!

... singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs
with thankfulness in your hearts to God.
Col 3:16

He has put a new song in my mouth—
Praise to our God
Many will see it and fear
And will trust in the LORD.

Blessed is that man who makes the LORD
his trust
And does not respect the proud, nor such
as turn aside to lies

Many, O LORD my God, are Your
wonderful works
Which You have done

Psalm 40:3-5

My Jesus I love thee, I know thou art mine
For thee all the follies of sin I resign
My gracious Redeemer, my Savior art
Thou
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus 'tis now

I love thee because thou hast first loved me
And purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree
I love thee for wearing the thorns on thy
brow
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus 'tis now

In mansions of glory and endless delight
I'll ever adore Thee in heaven so bright
I'll sing with the glittering crown on my
brow
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus 'tis now

A. J. Gordon

[Think]

Luke 22:3—"Then Satan entered Judas, surnamed Iscariot, who was numbered among the twelve." When Satan tempts people, he commonly does it by exciting and raising to the highest pitch their native passions. He does not make them act contrary to their nature, but leads them on to "act out" their proper disposition. Without Satan's motivation Judas might not have fallen into the trap. Judas could not have lived with himself when he looked back at what he had done.

Jesus predicted his seizure, his death and rebirth without naming the guilty party. (**John 13:26-30**)—"Jesus answered, 'It is he to whom I shall give a piece of bread when I have dipped it.' And having dipped the bread, He gave it to Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon. Now after the piece of bread, Satan entered him. Then Jesus said to him, 'What you do, do quickly.'"

[What you do, do quickly.] Perhaps Jesus' message should read something like this: "Judas, I know what you are up to. You have contracted to help the Sanhedrin find me so they might take me secretly to kill me. This is destined, prearranged. I am to die on the cross for the sins of the world. There is no alternative possible. It is up to you to do your part. Go. Do it quickly. "

Although Christ Jesus had given Judas the "go" sign to complete the sale, Judas must have retained some reservations. Here was Jesus, a man who went about the nation, healing, raising the dead, doing good wherever called on. Judas might have asked himself, "Why, oh why is Christ so anxious for me to go on with it?" Perhaps he did not attach enough significance to the situation. Clearly he, Judas, was not prepared for the death of Jesus.

John 18:3—Then Judas, having received a detachment of troops, and officers from the chief priests and Pharisees, came there with lanterns, torches, and weapons. [With lanterns, torches and weapons] With these they had intended to search the corners and caverns, provided Christ had hidden himself; for they could not have needed them for any other purpose, since [it was now] the fourteenth day of the moon's age, in the month Nisan, and consequently [the moon] appeared full and bright. The weapons mentioned here were probably no other than clubs, staves, and instruments of that kind, as we may gather from **Matt 26:55**; The swords mentioned by the other evangelists were probably those of the Roman soldiers; the clubs and staves belonged to the chief priest's officers.

Matt 27:3-5—"Then Judas, His betrayer, seeing that He had been condemned, was remorseful and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, saying, 'I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.'...Then he threw down the pieces of silver in the temple and departed, and went and hanged himself." He burst asunder (**Acts 1:18**) when the suicide was half accomplished, and his bowels gushed out his body lying ignominiously on the face, not on the back as the dead generally lie. But the only possession he purchased was a bloody burial place. If Judas could have seen where this was leading he would never have considered it.

Question: When did Judas begin to **THINK** of something he should not have considered?

Answer: When he first thought about taking money from the treasury. He became a thief. Without this first sin he possibly might not have had to **THINK** about selling his Master.

If we guard ourselves carefully against small things quite likely we'll never have to **THINK** about the larger things.

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