

All Betrayed Him Wednesday of Holy Week April 12, 2017 8:15 AM Is 50:4-9a;
Mt 26:14-25 (We are to live with the mystery, to enter into the mystery, and recognize how
in our own lives that mystery is constantly revealing itself.)

“Amen, I say to you, one of you will betray me.”

Now this is a difficult statement to parse because actually **they all betrayed him**. History and even the evangelists pick out Judas in a particular way, although it’s hard to say what his role was. It says, “He looked for an opportunity to the hand him over,” but what did that mean? What was handing him over? He didn’t have him to hand over. As far as indicating to the police who he was, Jesus was well-known. So **it is very difficult to say what Judas really did**.

What is not difficult to say is that **Judas obviously didn’t agree with Jesus’ plan**. He had something else in mind. He may have been of the Zealot party, wanting more action, even believing that God would intervene. If Jesus was arrested and he was really the Messiah, then God would intervene in a powerful way. But as Jesus said on more than one occasion, “Don’t you think my Father could sent legions of angels if he wanted to?” But he didn’t want to; that was not the plan.

It was for **Jesus to live life under the power of human society** and its twisted, corrupted sense of justice. He wanted to endure that for some reason to bring about something totally new and different in some way. All of this is mystery. We are not asked to answer questions about why, but rather **to live with the mystery, to enter into the mystery, and recognize how in our own lives that mystery is constantly revealing itself**, how the power of God’s redeeming love is revealing itself in our own lives and situations. Maybe this is just what Judas didn’t want. He wanted something else.

And that is so often the case. **We look to God, yes, but not for what God wants to give us**. We have our plans, and we think they are so good. We keep saying, Why not my plan? But that just is never quite answered, except insofar as it’s answered in Christ.

So **“one of you will betray me” is actually something that is cause for reflection in each one of them, and they are truly puzzled**. They say, well, “Who is it? Is it me? Is it him? Who is it?” Well, **they all come to realize that they have betrayed him**, but only one seemingly refuses to return in repentance. There is always a way home if we only want to take it.