The Apostle We Love to Hate: Judas Iscariot, the Man Who Betrayed Jesus

Judas Iscariot is one of the most infamous figures in history. He is known as the apostle who betrayed Jesus Christ, leading to his arrest and crucifixion. But who was Judas Iscariot, really? What motivated him to betray his master? And what can we learn from his story?

Who was Judas Iscariot?

Judas Iscariot was one of the twelve apostles of Jesus Christ. He was born in Kerioth, a town in Judea. Judas was a tax collector before he joined Jesus' ministry. Tax collectors were often despised by the Jewish people, as they were seen as collaborators with the Roman authorities. Judas may have been drawn to Jesus' message of hope and salvation, or he may have seen Jesus as a potential leader who could overthrow the Roman occupation.



St. Paul: The Apostle We Love to Hate (Icons)

by Karen Armstrong			
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Why did Judas betray Jesus?

There are many theories about why Judas betrayed Jesus. Some believe that Judas was motivated by greed. He may have been promised a large sum of money by the chief priests in exchange for betraying Jesus. Others believe that Judas was disillusioned with Jesus. He may have expected Jesus to establish a political kingdom on earth, and when Jesus did not do this, Judas may have felt betrayed. Still others believe that Judas was simply a weak man who was unable to withstand the pressure of the moment.

Whatever his reasons, Judas' betrayal had a profound impact on the course of history. It led to the arrest and crucifixion of Jesus Christ, and it has been a source of debate and controversy ever since.

What can we learn from Judas' story?

There are many lessons that we can learn from Judas' story. First, we can learn that even the closest of friends can betray us. Second, we can learn that greed and ambition can lead us to do terrible things. Third, we can learn that even in our darkest moments, there is always hope for redemption.

Judas Iscariot was a complex and tragic figure. He was a man who was capable of great evil, but he was also a man who was capable of great love. His story is a reminder that we are all capable of both good and evil, and that we should never take our salvation for granted.

Judas Iscariot is one of the most fascinating and enigmatic figures in history. His betrayal of Jesus Christ has been the subject of countless books, movies, and works of art. But who was the real Judas Iscariot? What motivated him to betray his master? And what can we learn from his story?

These are questions that we will likely never fully answer. But by exploring Judas' story, we can gain a deeper understanding of the human condition. We can learn about the dangers of greed and ambition, and we can learn about the power of redemption. And we can remember that even in our darkest moments, there is always hope.

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