

THE TWO TRAPS WE MUST AVOID

What do you think people want most out of life?

Psalm 41:9 (NIV) *Even my close friend, someone I trusted, one who shared my bread, has turned against me.*

Psalm 55:12 (NIV) *If an enemy were insulting me, I could endure it; if a foe were rising against me, I could hide. ¹³ But it is you, a man like myself, my companion, my close friend, ¹⁴ with whom I once enjoyed sweet fellowship at the house of God, as we walked about among the worshipers.*

1). Expectations

When was the time Judas' heart turned against Jesus?

Luke 9:23 (NIV) *And he said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. ²⁴ For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it.*

2). Greed

"Excessive desire to acquire."

John 12:2 (NIV) *Here a dinner was given in Jesus' honor. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him. ³ Then Mary took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.*

⁴ *But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected, ⁵ "Why wasn't this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year's wages." ⁶ He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it.*

What's the solution? Did you know:

- The Bible talks more about giving than it does about either heaven or hell.
- Jesus talked more about giving than almost any other subject.
- Over half of His parables have to do with money. There are more promises in the Bible related to giving than any other subject.

- "believe" is used 272 times
- "pray" is used 371 times
- "love" is used 714 times;
- "give" is used 2162 times.

1 Corinthians 16:2 *"On the first day of every week set aside some of what you have earned and give it as an offering. The amount depends on how much the Lord has helped you earn."*

Matthew 26:14 (NIV) *Then one of the Twelve—the one called Judas Iscariot—went to the chief priests ¹⁵ and asked, "What are you willing to give me if I deliver him over to you?" So they counted out for him thirty pieces of silver. ¹⁶ From then on Judas watched for an opportunity to hand him over.*

John 13:21 (NIV) *After he had said this, Jesus was troubled in spirit and testified, "Very truly I tell you, one of you is going to betray me."*

Matthew 26:22 (NIV) *They were very sad and began to say to him one after the other, "Surely you don't mean me, Lord?"*

John 13:27 (NIV) *As soon as Judas took the bread, Satan entered into him. So Jesus told him, "What you are about to do, do quickly."*