

## Luke 22:1-6

<sup>1</sup>Now the Feast of Unleavened Bread, called the Passover, was approaching, <sup>2</sup>and the chief priests and scribes were looking for a way to put Jesus to death; for they feared the people.

<sup>3</sup>Then Satan entered Judas Iscariot, who was one of the Twelve. <sup>4</sup>And Judas went to discuss with the chief priests and temple officers how he might betray Jesus to them. <sup>5</sup>They were delighted and agreed to give him money. <sup>6</sup>Judas consented, and began to look for an opportunity to betray Jesus to them in the absence of a crowd.

Berean Standard Bible

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1

### What temptation tastes like. Luke 22:1-6

Anticipating temptation. 22:1-2

Anticipating the death of a lamb. 1 "Passover, was approaching"  
Anticipating the death of the Lamb. 2 "put Jesus to death"

Tasting temptation. 22:3-4

Stepping over the line. 3 "Satan entered Judas Iscariot"  
The downward journey. 4 "Judas went to discuss"

Swallowing temptation. 22:5-6

Delighted to sin. 5 "They were delighted"  
Deceived into sin. 6 "Judas consented"

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2

### Undercover agent. Luke 22:1-6

Evil is always lurking, even behind holiness. 22:1-2

Temptation comes in feast, and famine. 1 "Now the feast" Luke 4:1-2 "hungry"  
Temptation is found overtly, and covertly. 2 "looking for a way... feared the people"

Evil always finds a way, even using disciples. 22:3-4

Small sins lead to big problems. 3 "Satan entered Judas" John 12:6 "Judas... thief"  
Passive sins lead to active sins. 4 "Judas went to discuss"

Evil always pays its wages, even when we don't want it. 22:5-6

Sin may give short term pleasure. 5 "delighted and agreed" Hebrews 11:25  
Sin must give long term pain. 6 "betray... in the absence" Romans 6:23

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3

**Know the problem, then you can know the solution. Luke 22:1-6**

Expecting sin. 22:1-2

Focus on God's victory over sin. 1 "Feast... Passover" Exodus release from slavery  
The world of sin is not our world. 2 "death... feared" John 17:13-16 not of the world

Actual sin. 22:3-4

Failure begins with what we allow. 3 "Satan entered... one of the Twelve"  
Failure happens with what we do. 4 "discuss with the chief priests"

Assessing sin. 22:5-6

Sin gives its rewards. 5 "delighted and agreed... money" Hebrews 11:25  
Sin gives its retribution. 6 "betray Jesus" Romans 6:23, Matthew 25:41

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4

Compare and contrast with Jesus in wilderness temptations

Our path will always lead to temptation

Judas was led by the flesh.  
Jesus was led by the Spirit. 4:1-2

Satan will go only as far as we allow

Judas had Satan enter into him. 22:3  
Jesus had Satan come to him. 4:3

My thoughts and words reveal my heart

Judas went to discuss. 22:4. 2 Timothy 2:22  
Jesus quoted Scripture. 4:4, 8, 12

Choose from the eternal perspective

Judas abandoned Jesus. 22:6  
Jesus overcame Satan. 4:13. 1 John 3:8

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5

**Luke 22:1-6**

Look what's coming. 22:1-2

The celebration of life. 1 “the Feast... was approaching”

The condemnation of death. 2 “were looking for a way”

Look what’s within. 22:3-4

My sinfulness is Satan’s opportunity. 3 “Satan entered Judas”

My slackness is Satan’s opportunity. 4 “Judas went to discuss”

Look what’s ahead. 22:5-6

Sin can be happiness. 5 “delighted and agreed”

Sin is never satisfied. 6 “consented... look for an opportunity”

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6

### **Warning: slippery slope**

Big problems begin as heart problems. “love of money is the root” 1 Timothy 6:10

Big problems begin as small problems. “Judas was a thief who pilfered” John 12:6

Big problems lead to bigger problems. “Judas went to the chief priests” Luke 22:4-5

Big problems become emotional problems. “Judas was struck with remorse” Matthew 27:3

Big problems become relational problems “returned money to the priests” Matthew 27:3

Big problems become physical problems “went away and hanged himself” Matthew 27:5

Big problems are spiritual problems. “of all the disciples, he was lost” John 17:12

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### **Other possible titles**

Hook, line, and sinker

An inside job, but what happened inside the insider

Don’t become Satan’s pawn

Friend or foe?

Look in the mirror to assign blame

Can a Christian be demon-possessed?

Stabbed in the dark / in the back

Even sinners are looking for someone to trust

Sinning saints, and sanctified sinners

Choose to be a winner, not a loser

Why sin is so popular (among the dead)

Did the Devil make me do it?

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## Chronology

The following notes are from the free e-book, *Timeline*, chapter 39, available from the same site as where you got these notes. [www.sermoninspiration.net](http://www.sermoninspiration.net)

Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
1 March	2 March	3 March	4 March	5 March	6 March	7 March
						FULL
8 Nisan	9 Nisan	10 Nisan	11 Nisan	12 Nisan	13 Nisan	14 Nisan
6th day	Sabbath	1st day	2nd day	3rd day	Preparation	Passover
6 days until	5 days until	4 days until	3 days until	days until	1 day until	Passover

The date was Monday 4 March 30 AD. In just over 36 hours, Jesus would be carrying His cross to Calvary (Wednesday morning, 6 March 30 AD). But when evening came, it got dark. There was no electric lighting in the First Century. People rose at dawn, and settled back in their homes at dusk. So, when evening came the crowds dispersed from the temple courts. Jesus and the disciples also began their journey back to Bethany; to the home of their hosts, Lazarus, Mary, and Martha. Archaeology shows the homes of that day were very small. Not everyone could fit into the Bethany home. Peter, James, John and Andrew (Mark 13:3) left the temple with Jesus, suggesting these five were staying together, while the other disciples were billeted in other homes, probably nearby in Bethany. That evening the disciples went in different directions. Four of them stayed with Jesus to talk with Him about the future destruction of the temple, and His Second Coming. Meanwhile, it was easy for Judas to slip away unnoticed to the High Priest's house with an offer too good to refuse. He would rejoin the others later that evening for a communal meal at Bethany.

<sup>1</sup> Now the Festival of Unleavened Bread, called the Passover, was approaching, <sup>2</sup> and the chief priests and the teachers of the law were looking for some way to get rid of Jesus, yet they were afraid of the people.

<sup>3</sup> Then Satan entered Judas, called Iscariot, one of the Twelve. <sup>4</sup> And Judas went to the chief priests and the officers of the temple guard and discussed with them how he might betray Jesus. <sup>5</sup> They were delighted and agreed to give him money. <sup>6</sup> He consented, and watched for an opportunity to hand Jesus over to them when no crowd was present. (Luke 22:1-6)

Judas was marked as an easy target for Satan because of his secret sin of stealing (John 12:6). His apparently small sin opened the door for bigger sins.

<sup>14</sup> Then one of the Twelve—the one called Judas Iscariot—went to the chief priests <sup>15</sup> 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. <sup>16</sup> From then on Judas watched for an opportunity to hand Him over. (Matthew 26:14-16)

What are we to do when we are faced with the temptation to sin? There is only one answer. Flee! We are to get away from it. We are not to amble, jog, or run, from sin. The word is much more forceful and dynamic we are to “flee” from sin.

“Flee from sexual immorality” (1 Corinthians 6:18)

“Flee from idolatry” (1 Corinthians 10:14)

“Flee from all these sins” (1 Timothy 6:11)

“Flee the evil desires of youth” (2 Timothy 2:22)

When we are obedient to all these clear and specific commands, we are given a promise:

Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. (James 4:7)

### Thirty pieces of silver

Scholars argue over what type of coin was used to pay Judas, and how much silver was contained in each coin, and then try to extrapolate to today’s value. There will never be agreement among those scholars. A much better approach is to see the purchasing power of that amount of money in their day. Thirty pieces of silver was enough money to purchase a field on the outskirts of the capital city (Matthew 27:7). By any measure, that is a considerable amount of money. Judas had been pilfering small amounts from the donations to Jesus’ ministry (John 12:6). The offer of more money than he had seen in his entire life was a temptation into which he plunged headlong.

Thirty pieces of silver was also a lifetime’s wages. The cost of a slave was 30 pieces of silver (Exodus 21:32). Jews had to release slaves who were fellow Jews after 6 years (Exodus 21:2). But non-Jewish slaves remained slaves for a long and indeterminate time. In effect, the price of a slave was the equivalent of a lifetime of wages. Once again, this is an enormous amount of money.

Thirty pieces of silver was the cost of a slave, and Judas was that slave. The money purchased him, just as surely as it would purchase a slave in the slave market. Judas would soon learn the tragic truth of the Scripture which states:

“The love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.”  
(1 Timothy 6:10)

Judas failed to realise that he did not hold money; money held him.

Events	Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
Passover 2 days away	26:1-2	14:1	22:1	
Plot in Caiaphas' house	26:3-5	14:1-2	22:2	
Satan entered Judas			22:3	
Judas goes to the high priests	26:14-16		22:4-6	

Jesus was disturbing the temple’s cash flow, and He was exposing the corruption that existed in the Pharisees’ form of worshipping God. They would pay almost anything to be rid

of Him. Thirty pieces of silver was a huge amount for an individual such as Judas, but a trifling amount compared to the temple's annual turnover.

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### Quotes and illustrations

One who is righteous is a guide to his neighbour, but the way of the wicked leads them astray. Proverbs 12:26

There is a path before each person that seems right, but it ends in death. Prov. 14:12, 16:25

“Hear and understand: it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but what comes out of the mouth; this defiles a person.” Then the disciples came and said to him, “Do you know that the Pharisees were offended when they heard this saying?” He answered, “Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be rooted up. Let them alone; they are blind guides. And if the blind lead the blind, both will fall into a pit.” But Peter said to him, “Explain the parable to us.” And he said, “Are you also still without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth passes into the stomach and is expelled? But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this defiles a person. For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander. These are what defile a person. But to eat with unwashed hands does not defile anyone.” (Matthew 15:10-20)

Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things are worthy of death, they not only continue to do these things, but also approve of those who practice them. Romans 1:32

Moses refused to “enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin” Hebrews 11:25

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The English language words ‘temptation’ and ‘test’ have different nuances. But they are both accurate translations of the same Greek word. The context in which the word is found determines how it is to be translated. If the outcome of what you are facing is to cause you to fail, then what you are facing is a temptation. If the outcome of what you are facing is to cause you to succeed, then what you are facing is a test. Therefore, you are the one who has the power to turn a temptation into a test by choosing to succeed, instead of fail.

Satan tempts you, to make you fail. God tests you, to help you succeed.

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Adult story of art fraud

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Adult story of dumb criminals

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Children's story of Narnia, Edmund's betrayal for Turkish delight

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I suppose since mankind first looked at a mountain something inside him made him want to climb it. Mt. Everest is the tallest mountain on the planet soaring to almost six miles in height. In 1924 a British expedition team set out to scale it. They nearly reached the summit when the Sherpa porters refused to go any further. They got within 900 feet of the top, and then had to turn back.

It wasn't until 1953 that Sir Edmund Hillary finally reached the peak. Sixty years later, thousands of people have made it to the top. This spring there will be another traffic jam of climbers. Today you can even download a National Geographic App and watch the progress of one of the teams!

Can you imagine the frustration of the first climbers who got close to the summit and then had to turn back? That's what Paul is writing about. There is a grace-way that can take you to the summit of having Christ formed in you. Don't turn back until you reach the summit!  
(With thanks to David Dykes)

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## Temptation

I am tempted by my own evil desires

<sup>13</sup> When tempted, no one should say, "God is tempting me." For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; <sup>14</sup> but each person is **tempted** when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. <sup>15</sup> Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death. <sup>16</sup> Don't be deceived, my dear brothers and sisters. James 1:13-16

<sup>9</sup> Those who want to be rich, however, fall into **temptation** and become ensnared by many foolish and harmful desires that plunge them into ruin and destruction. <sup>10</sup> For the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil. By craving it, some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many sorrows. 1 Timothy 6:9-10

I can be tempted by Satan

For this reason, when I could bear it no longer, I sent to find out about your faith, for fear that the **tempter** had somehow **tempted** you and caused our labour to be in vain. 1 Thessalonians 3:5

Jesus faced temptation (therefore, temptation is not a sin)

When the devil had finished all this **tempting**, he left him until an opportune time.  
Luke 4:13

For because He Himself has suffered when **tempted**, He is able to help those who are being **tempted**. Hebrews 2:18

Prayer gives strength against temptation

And lead us not into **temptation**, but deliver us from the evil one. Matthew 6:13

Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us. And lead us not into **temptation**.” Luke 11:4

On reaching the place, he said to them, “Pray that you will not fall into **temptation**.”  
Luke 22:40

God provides a way out of temptation

No **temptation** has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be **tempted** beyond what you can bear. But when you are **tempted**, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it. 1 Corinthians 10:13

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.  
James 4:7

But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the **desires** of the flesh. Galatians 5:16

Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body. 1 Corinthians 6:18-20

Do not be deceived: “Bad company ruins good morals.” 1 Corinthians 15:33

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. 1 John 2:1

Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Psalm 37:4

So flee youthful passions and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart. 2 Timothy 2:22

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. Romans 12:21

Coming successfully out of temptation

Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him. James 1:12 NIV

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## Music and songs

Songs based on this text, v5 “agreed to give him money”

Not silver nor gold hath obtained my redemption, H 720

Songs about temptation

Before the throne of God above... when Satan tempts me to despair, TS 6

What a friend we have in Jesus... Have we trials and temptations, H 421

Yield not to temptation, for yielding is sin, H 749

Songs about overcoming Satan

A mighty fortress is our God... though this world with devils filled, H 84

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord, H 523

Onward Christian soldiers, H 520

Stand up, stand up for Jesus, ye soldiers of the cross, H 522 / 752

Songs about Jesus' victory

Above all else, TS3-1641

All hail the power of Jesus' name... crown Him, H 178

Crown Him with many crowns, H 180

Hail, Thou once despised Jesus, H 176

Jesus shall reign where e'er the sun, H 184 / 186

Look ye saints, the sight is glorious, H 177

O Christ in Thee... Now none but Christ can satisfy, H 744

Rejoice the Lord is King, H 181

The battle belongs to the Lord, SiS 630

The Lord reigns, SiS 342

Worthy is the Lamb,

Songs about our victory

He who would valiant be... to be a pilgrim. H 530 / 531

I go to the Rock, Ot 100

I lift up my head, Ot 111

I'm a conqueror and victorious

My faith looks up to Thee, H 532

Rejoice in the Lord... Who can be against us, H 733

Who is on the Lord's side, H 750

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**Thought starters for personal reflection or group discussion**

1. We all face many different temptations. What makes some things tempting?
  2. Judas was a Gospel preacher and miracle worker (Mark 3:14-15), but he was also a thief (John 12:6), and unsaved (John 17:12). How could such contradictions exist within one person?
  3. Using James 1:13-16 as your starting point, explain how temptation works.
  4. When we are tempted, what are three supports we have (1 Corinthians 10:13)?
  5. Why should Matthew 6:13 be regularly in our prayers?
  6. Born-again Christians cannot be demon possessed. What prevents demons from entering into believers (2 Corinthians 6:14-16)?
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