

Biggest Losers in the Bible

Judas

He was chosen to serve with Jesus even though he was a devil.

- ❖ Jesus chose the disciples (Mk. 3:13ff., Jn. 15:16) and devilish Judas, 13:26.
- ❖ Jesus chose Judas because he would be willing to betray Him, Jn. 13:18, 17:11,12, Ps. 41:9. Some argue Judas is innocent since his sin was predicted, but predictions of failure are common and don't absolve one (eg., Peter later).

He was chosen to be treasurer even though he was a habitual thief.

- ❖ Judas kept the money box and as treasurer he regularly stole from it. His first recorded words are his deceptive protest of wasting money, Jn. 12:3-6.
- ❖ He stole from Jesus, generous friends and the poor; see the poor also mentioned with Judas in Jn. 13:26-29. Judas not only fooled people into trusting him with the money box, but to the 12 he seemed above reproach!

He betrayed Jesus to the religious leaders for money.

- ❖ Judas appears to be disillusioned, as the betrayal follows his protest, see Matt. 26:14-16; plus three times Jesus has predicted his death, perhaps motivating Judas to seek a profit in what appeared to be a lost cause.
- ❖ Judas' experiences w/Jesus aren't enough to relieve his disillusionment.

He committed suicide because of his extreme guilt.

- ❖ Judas clearly saw himself as guilty and tried to return the money.
- ❖ Judas' then killed himself, Matt. 27:3-5 (contrast with Peter).

What should we learn from Judas?

