

# **Luke**

## **See Jesus**

### **The Blame Game**

#### **Luke 22:1-6**

*Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Brian Fannin / March 3, 2024*

**Luke 22:1-6** “Now the Feast of Unleavened Bread drew near, which is called the Passover. <sup>2</sup>And the chief priests and the scribes were seeking how to put Him to death, for they feared the people. <sup>3</sup>Then Satan entered into Judas called Iscariot, who was of the number of the twelve. <sup>4</sup>He went away and conferred with the chief priests and officers how he might betray Him to them. <sup>5</sup>And they were glad, and agreed to give him money. <sup>6</sup>So he consented and sought an opportunity to betray Him to them in the absence of a crowd.”

**Two stops and two starts that are needed in our lives to free us to live with more joy and hope:**

- I. STOP blaming greed for Judas’ betrayal.**  
**START seeing unbelief as Judas’ real problem and yours as well.**

Judas betrayed Jesus because in his view, Jesus was not enough.

Behind the sins we hate and the sins we love is unbelief. Unbelief began in the garden, and resides in the dark corners of your heart. Unbelief drove Judas to many things — greed, being a thief, and ultimately betraying the Son of God.

- II. STOP blaming the religious leaders as the reason Jesus was crucified.**  
**START seeing fear as a driving force for all kinds of sin.**

**Luke 22:2** “And the chief priests and the scribes were seeking how to put Him to death, for they feared the people.”

It's likely a combination of political, religious, and personal fear that contributed to the fear. What we want is what serves us. We fear not having what we want and the loss of control.

**1 John 4:18** “There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love.”

Fear is at the heart of why we don't live loving and trusting God and consequently, what we do is love and trust almost anything but God.

The Bible speaks about fear more often than most things, and at the center of much of it is the fear of man. The fear of man and warning about it run throughout Scripture:

- The fear of man lays a snare (Prov. 29:25)
- The Bible asks “Who are you to be afraid of mortal man?” (Isa. 51:12)
- The Bible tells us that we have forgotten the Lord so we fear the oppressor (Isa. 51:13)
- In the garden, God’s first question “Where are you?” is answered “I was afraid and hid myself.” (Gen. 3:10)
- Scouts sent into the Promised Land reported giants in the land and they could not occupy it (Num. 13-14)
- King Saul was afraid of the Philistine army (1 Sam. 28:5)
- Peter was afraid of the circumcision party (Gal. 2:12)

- The disciples of Christ locked the doors for fear of the Jews (John 20:19)
- Paul warns to be afraid if we do evil (Rom. 13:4)

Do not be afraid of any man (Deut. 1:17); do not be afraid when one becomes rich (Ps. 49:16); do not fear the prophet who speaks presumptuously (Deut. 18:22); do not be scared by your opponents (Phil. 1:28); do not be afraid of the people of the land (Num. 14:9; Deut. 1:29; Deut. 3:22; Deut. 7:18; Deut. 7:21; Deut. 31:6; Josh. 10:8; Josh. 11:6); do not be afraid of Og (Num. 21:34; Deut. 3:2); do not be afraid of the Chaldeans (2 Kgs. 25:24); do not be afraid of fellow Israelites (2 Kgs. 1:15; Jer. 1:8; Ezek. 2:6; Ezek. 3:9); the Israelites are told not be afraid of serving their enemies, nor their words (Jer. 40:9, Deut. 20:1; Deut. 20:3; 2 Chr. 20:15; 2 Chr. 20:17; Neh. 4:14); And Jesus said for His disciples to not be afraid of those that oppose you (Matt. 10:26) or those who kill the body (Matt. 10:28; Luke 12:4).

~ Collins Thesaurus of the Bible

It's a pervasive temptation to live in fear and it wreaks havoc on our lives. Things we fear:

- The past
- The future
- What others think of us/What they might do to us

The problem with fear is not that we have it, but that we fear the wrong things.

If you don't know Christ, you should fear God. We should fear what God can do to our unyielded life (Matt. 10:28).

God gets reduced every time other things, circumstances, or opinions have greater importance than His awesome might and goodness of the Gospel.

**Psalm 27:1** "The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?"

**Hebrews 13:5-6** "Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for He has said, 'I will never leave you nor forsake you.' <sup>6</sup> So we can confidently say, 'The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?'"