

There are some things in life that we would all like to experience. We all want to be accepted. We would like to believe that we are liked by others and our lives are of value. There is probably not a person reading this article that hasn't experienced rejection at one time or another. We all want to be accepted, not rejected. Rejection is a terrible experience for any of us.

When we read in Scripture about our Lord Jesus, He knew first-hand what it was like to be rejected. In Luke 22:47-53 we read, (47) And while he yet spoke, behold a multitude, and he that was called Judas, one of the twelve, went before them, and drew near unto Jesus to kiss him. (48) But Jesus said unto him, "Judas, betrayest thou the Son of man with a kiss"? (49) When they who were about him saw what would follow, they said unto him, Lord, shall we smite with the sword? (50) And one of them smote the servant of the high priest, and cut off his right ear. (51) And Jesus answered, and said, "Permit ye thus far". And he touched his ear, and healed him. (52) Then Jesus said unto the chief priests, and captains of the temple, and the elders, who



JUST A THOUGHT

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were come to him, "Are you come out, as against a thief, with swords and clubs? (53) When I was daily with you in the temple, ye stretched forth no hands against me; but this is your hour, and the power of darkness". As we read from this passage, betrayal is the ultimate. How would or how could anyone betray the Lord Jesus?

Jesus' band of followers were made up of twelve disciples. It is made clear in Scripture that one of them (Judas) was a devil. You may be wondering if Jesus knew it when He selected him. Absolutely! Judas was a traitor. He was the money changer among the disciples. He was the one who carried the money purse. We must realize that many

of the disciples were weak in faith and very carnal in their apprehension of what was really taking place. They were much like men serving in an apprenticeship. They were still in the learning process and maturing in the faith. That was not the case with Judas. Judas had no spiritual depth, he was a traitor. He was one who was only acting the part. In that day he would have been called a hypocrite.

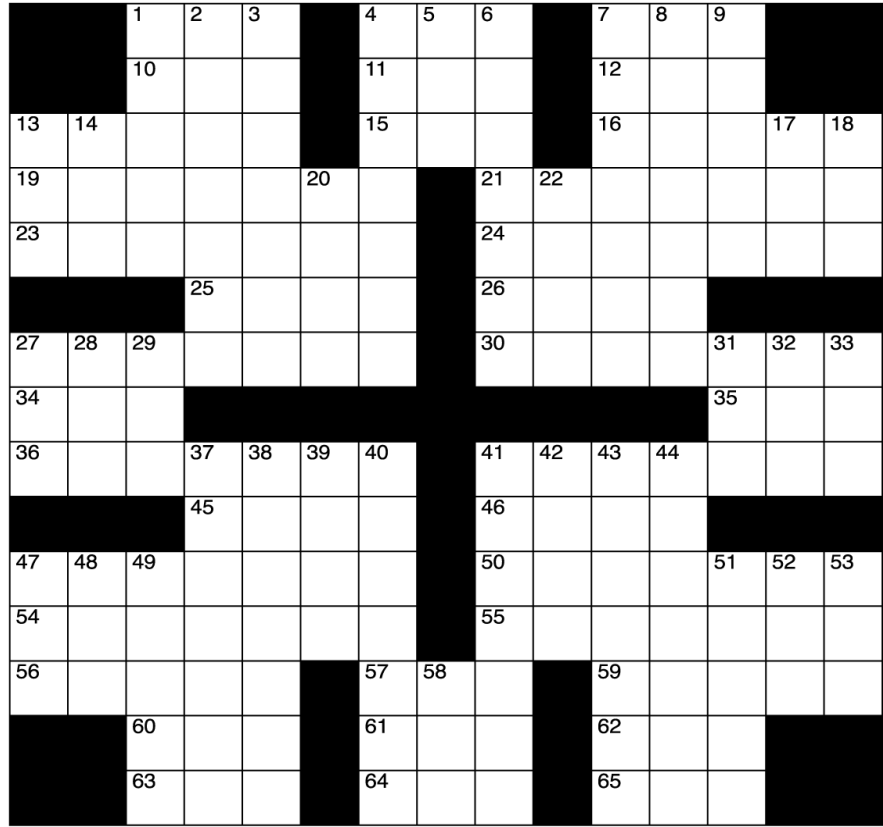
As we examine the character of Judas, he knew all about Jesus and His routine and activities. He knew where and when Jesus would move about. He betrayed our Lord into the cruel hands of the enemy for thirty pieces of silver. He always professed to be a follower, but he was never a possessor. He ultimately rejected Jesus for monetary gain.

The manner in which Judas betrayed our Lord was by a simple kiss on the cheek. He told the soldiers that they would be able to identify Jesus when he kissed Him. This was the customarily accepted token of affection in that day. However, here it is cheapened because Judas had no affection for Jesus. The amazing part of this event is how it was received. Jesus had already told the oth-

ers in the upper room that one would betray Him, but when Judas kissed Him it was received with Lamb-like meekness. Jesus knew it was an act of betrayal, but He received it just

as His Father wanted it. Judas appeared to be united with Jesus, but his actions spoke something else. I sometimes wonder what my actions say to others. Do my actions exemplify the love

of Christ in my life, or do I betray Him by my actions? These thoughts give us much to think about, and if we need to change, I pray He will help us do it.



CLUES ACROSS

1. Sr. enlisted Army member

4. Payroll firm

7. Monetary unit of Macao

10. Cooking vessel

11. Cow sound

12. Hairpiece

13. Spoon-shaped surgical instrument

15. Mother

16. Remove from record

19. Foolish

21. Mailman

23. Unit of data size

24. Stirred

25. Deceptive movement

26. We all have one

27. Direct from pasture beef animal

30. A person's own self

34. Helps little firms
35. Deep, red-brown sea bream

36. Tumbler

41. A short section of a musical composition

45. Young woman (French)

46. Wings

47. Wine bottles

50. Thin layers of rock

54. Opposite to

55. American state

56. Uncertainty about something

57. Basics

59. Indian seaport

60. Owed as a debt

61. Buffer solution

62. Unit of work or energy

63. Soviet Socialist Republic

64. One point south of due east

65. Born of

CLUES DOWN

1. Small stem bearing leaves

2. Female Bacchanalians

3. Mediterranean city

4. Measures electric current

5. Arrived extinct

6. Edible butterfish

7. Causing wonder or astonishment

8. Behaviors showing high moral standards

9. Ancient Irish alphabets

13. Footballer Newton

14. Utilize

17. Sum of absolute errors

18. Opposite of the beginning

20. Shoe company

22. Algerian port city

27. Girls organization (abbr.)

28. Type of cell (abbr.)
29. Swiss river

31. When you hope to get there

32. Fall behind

33. Expresses distaste, disapproval

37. Volume containing several novels

38. Less sharp

39. Food for the poor

40. Having made a valid will

41. Royal estates

42. Relating to wings

43. Japanese three-stringed lute

44. Taking something through force

47. Angry

48. Before the present

49. Showy ornaments

51. Norway

52. Comedienne Gasteyer

53. Consume

58. Founder of Babism

Answers to puzzles on Page 12

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	1	5		2		3	4	
		8			4		1	
	2		6	4		5	9	
3				8		4		
			9			2		
	3				6			
	7		1		8			
				9	7			

Answers to puzzle on Page 12