

# **The World's Most Famous Traitor**

*Matthew 26:47-50*

## **Introduction:**

- A. In December 2010, *The Washington Times* ran an article titled "The List: Famous Traitors Throughout History." This article listed 11 of the world's most famous traitors in history.
- B. Marcus Brutus -Roman politician turned against his patron, Roman dictator Julius Caesar.
- C. Benedict Arnold - Obtained command of West Point in order to surrender it to the British, but his plot was exposed. He led British forces on raids in Virginia and Connecticut in the war.
- D. John Wilkes Booth – Cut short the life of our 16<sup>th</sup> President by a bullet fired from his gun.
- E. The actions of Brutus, Benedict Arnold and Booth pale fail to compare to the betrayal of Judas Iscariot.

## **A Name Disgraced:**

- A. Judas was a common name in those days.
- B. Jesus' parents gave His half brother the name Judas or Jude (Matt. 13:55).
- C. People who don't know much about the Bible know enough to equate Judas with treachery (Prov. 22:1).

## **A Heart Unchanged:**

- A. Judas was driven but not devoted (Matt. 26:6-16).
- B. Judas was present but not passionate (Matt. 26:20).
- C. Judas was warned but not willing (Matt. 26:21-24).

## **A Life Wasted:**

- A. Judas was remorseful but not restored (Matt. 27:3-5).
- B. Being sorry for something isn't the same as repentance.
- C. Judas sold out the Master and still had an opportunity to repent (Psa. 103:8-13).

## **Conclusion:**

- A. Even though Judas made a big mistake, his ending could have been different.
- B. Maybe you have made a big mistake in the past for which you have yet to receive forgiveness. Maybe your life has been more of a betrayal to the Lord than a blessing.
- C. Why not choose for your outcome to be different? Why not seek forgiveness while you still have time!