

BETRAYAL

(Genesis 37:18) When they saw him from a distance and before he came close to them, they plotted against him to put him to death.

The plot – nakal – deceive, trick, deal dishonestly, betray

- The brothers betrayed both Joseph and their father – sold / lied to their own blood
- 2Tim 3:3 – w/out natural affection – **astorgos** – drowned in a sea of jealous hate

Doctrine of Betrayal

1. Hebrew / Greek Concepts:

- **OT** concept is to beguile, to deceive, mislead or to take advantage of.
- **NT** – **paradidomi** – lit. to lay beside; give over, commit, deliver; an unjustified act of handing someone over to judicial authority (Mt 10:4); to use the trust of intimate access to take advantage of someone – Judas used his trusted access to betray Jesus by leading the soldiers to arrest Him. (Mk 14:43-46).

2. The Original Betrayer in History – Lucifer

- **Ezek 28:12-19 – the original sin of Satan**
 - 12-15a – Created in a state of +R perfection
 - 15b-18 – Chose –R state of sinful corruption
 - 15 – blameless until –R was found/discovered – wickedness
 - 16 – trade – rekullah – merchandise – to go about as in business – slander; violence; sinned; Lucifer was cast out and expelled from his position in God’s kingdom
 - 17 – pride – heart lifted up because of beauty; mind/reasoning became corrupted
 - 18 – multitude of depravities; wicked trade – wicked slander against God
- **Isaiah 14:12-14 – 5 “I Wills” of Lucifer – ambition to replace God – be like God**
- **3 Falls of Lucifer – Satan**
 - A** – Removed from his position as the anointed cherub – cast out & expelled but still with access to the throne room to argue his case – Job 1:6-12; Zech 3:1-2
 - Created with beauty & brains – assigned to guard the holiness of God
 - Pride – impressed with his own beauty and splendor
 - Ambition – 5 I wills – ambition to win the worship of creatures
 - Method – slander, accuser, violence – slandered the character of God – Rev 12:3-4
 - Continues to seek a means of escape from his impending judgment
 - B** – Fall to Earth – mid tribulation Satan is confined to the earth – Rev 12:7-13; Millennium – he is confined to the abyss Rev 20:1-3
 - C** – Cast into the Lake of Fire – Rev 20:10; Mt 25:41

3. Significant Betrayals in Human History

- Gen 3:1-5,13 – Satan betrays Eve – lies to her; slanders God – A/E betray God
 - 13 – Serpent beguiled me – **nasha** - deceive
- Gen 4:3-8 – Cain betrays Abel – kills his brother – 1Jn 3:12 – Satan motivated him
- Gen 27 – Rebekah/Jacob betray Isaac and Esau – stole the blessing
- Gen 35:22 – Reuben had sexual relations with Bilhah, Jacob’s concubine
 - lost his birth rite as the 1st born Gen 49:3-4

- Num 20:8-12 – Moses struck the rock – betrayed the Lord
- 2Sam 11 – David betrays Uriah, Israel and the Lord
- Jn 13:2 – devil influences Judas to betray the Lord; Jn 13:27 Satan enters & indwells him; Lk 22:48 – Judas betrays Him/kiss

3. The mind-set of a betrayer – James 4:1-2

Desire / demand (belief you should / must have it) à denied / frustration (feel betrayed & unfairly deprived) à anger / jealous / violence (remove obstacle)

Lucifer – wanted recognition/worship à denied as only God is to be worshipped à felt betrayed/unfairly deprived à jealous of God-Son à do violence to remove Him

- Gen 3:4-5 – God is unfairly depriving you – eat & you can be like Him
- Job 1:6-11 – if you take away his blessings like you did mine he will curse you just like I did – my rebellion was justified and Job will prove the point
- Mt 4:8-9 – fall down & worship me – Lucifer’s demand for recognition
- Isaiah 14 – “I wills” – demand/determination to have what he wants

Lucifer’s beauty & talent caused him to desire and then believe he was worthy to be worshipped (pride). God’s law refused to accommodate his demand and he was denied. He felt betrayed and unfairly treated/deprived of what should have been his. Rather than accept his creature/servant role in God’s plan (humility) he decided to hate God. He truly felt that God had betrayed him and decided to do violence to God and eliminate the obstacle to his desire. He was apparently jealous of the love & blessing given to GS which became manifest in the incarnation.

Cain – Gen 4:3-8 – desire for God’s approval on his own terms (fruit offering) à rejected/denied while Abel is accepted à frustrated, angry, jealous (feels unjustly treated/betrayed) à rejects God’s grace solution for sin à implements his own solution – violent removal of his rival (betrays his brother)
1Jn 3:12 – Cain was of the evil one – motivated by Satan

Brothers - Gen 37 –desired their father’s love/approval à denied as it was primarily going to Joseph (felt betrayed, angry, jealous) à desire becomes demand (belief that the present situation must change) à opportunity to remove Joseph & resolve the problem – violence à Betrayed Joseph and their father

- Gen 37:19-20 – let’s see about his dreams – hatred of the idea of J’s ruling them; vs 25 – sat down to eat with J in the pit – callous disregard for his suffering
- Gen 42:21- we saw his distress as he pleaded with us – we would not listen

The brother’s felt deeply betrayed by their father’s favoritism to Joseph. Their desire for his approval was normal but their demand for it was an OM belief that rejected God’s grace as the provision/solution. Their jealous hatred caused an irrational belief that they could solve the problem with violence & evil.

4. Principle for application:

Pain that comes from unmet needs/desires and/or loss in this life feels like betrayal and easily becomes justification for living in sin.

- a. Life after the fall guarantees that we will experience disappointment
- b. Unrealistic expectations (OM) in relationships à inevitable disappointment
- c. Unmet expectations feels like betrayal by those who we were depending upon
- d. Feeling betrayed is a false interpretation of experience – OM beliefs
- e. Easy to justify sins of self pity, anger, jealousy, hatred, resentment, bitterness, blame, addictions, rebellion, betrayal, violence, etc
- f. Jesus who truly was betrayed for our benefit – Lk 23:34 “Father forgive them for they know not what they do.”