

UNSTOPPABLE 

the book of Acts

If God is going to use us, His church, to change the world ...

A. We must be obedient.

B. We must be of one mind.

C. We must be praying.

D. We must be attentive to His Word.

E. We must trust in His will.

Choosing an Apostle

Acts 1:15-26

Disciple translates the Greek *mathetes*

→ learner, pupil, or follower

Apostle translates the Greek *apostolos*

→ one who is sent, like a delegate or an ambassador or a messenger

Luke 6:13

“And when it was day, he called unto him his disciples: and of them he chose twelve, whom also he named apostles.”

John 6:64

“But there are some of you that believe not. For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were that believed not, and who should betray him.”

Why did Jesus choose Judas?

- 1. To reinforce the certainty of God's prophetic Word.**

John 13:18

“I speak not of you all: I know whom I have chosen: but that the scripture may be fulfilled, He that eateth bread with me hath lifted up his heel against me.”

Why did Jesus choose Judas?

- 1. To reinforce the certainty of God's prophetic Word.**
- 2. To show that even "spectacular sins" serve God's purpose.**

Acts 4:27-28

“For of a truth against thy holy child Jesus, whom thou hast anointed, both Herod, and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles, and the people of Israel, were gathered together, 28 For to do whatsoever thy hand and thy counsel determined before to be done.”

Genesis 50:20

“But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive.”

Why did Jesus choose Judas?

- 3. To make it clear that God's sovereignty does not undermine human responsibility.**

John 17:12

“While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled.”

Matthew 27:3-4

“Then Judas, which had betrayed him, when he saw that he was condemned, repented himself, and brought again the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, 4 Saying, I have sinned in that I have betrayed the innocent blood. And they said, What is that to us? see thou to that.”

Matthew 27:5

“And he cast down the pieces of silver in the temple, and departed, and went and hanged himself.”

Why did Jesus choose Judas?

- 3. To make it clear that God's sovereignty does not undermine human responsibility.**
- 4. To emphasize that saving faith isn't the same as religious activity.**

Matthew 10:1

“And when he had called unto him his twelve disciples, he gave them power against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease.”

Matthew 7:22-23

“Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? 23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.”

Why did Jesus choose Judas?

- 5. To illustrate how the love of money can corrupt one's soul.**

Those who were apostles ...

- A. Spent time learning from Jesus.**
- B. Were eyewitnesses of His resurrection.**
- C. Were called/commissioned to the role by Jesus.**

Matthew 19:28

“And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.”