

THE TRAITOR'S SUICIDE
(Matthew 27:1-10)

- I. Unprecedented EVIL (Matt. 27:1-2)
 - A. The Sanhedrin RECONVENED
 - 1. Waited until DAY
 - 2. Moved to their LEGITIMATE assembly (Lk. 22:66)
 - B. They CONFIRMED the overnight DEATH SENTENCE (cf. Mk. 15:1)
 - C. They sought AUTHORITY for Jesus' EXECUTION

- II. Unrequited GUILT (Matt. 27:3-5)
 - A. Judas "saw that [Jesus] had been CONDEMNED"
 - 1. "He felt REMORSE"
 - 2. He RETURNED what he'd been PAID
 - 3. He confessed the SIN of betraying INNOCENT blood
 - B. The Sanhedrin was NOT HELPFUL
 - 1. They had been COMPLICIT
 - 2. They were now CALLOUS
 - C. Judas threw the money into the TEMPLE SANCTUARY

D. Judas “went away and HANGED HIMSELF” (cf. Acts 1:16-19)

III. Unabashed HYPOCRISY (Matt. 27:6-8)

A. They were suddenly concerned about LEGALITY

1. They ADMITTED the money had been PAID to secure a FALSE conviction leading to EXECUTION

2. They were the ones who had PAID the BRIBE

B. They used it to buy the “POTTER’S FIELD”

1. They made it a place to BURY STRANGERS

2. It was a GOOD WILL gesture with DARK connotations

C. The SOURCE of the money became PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE

IV. Unavoidable SOVEREIGNTY (Matt. 27:9-10; cf. Jer. 19:1-13; Zech. 11:12-13)

A. Prophets had foretold the PRICE of the BETRAYAL

B. Prophets had foretold how the money would be USED