

Judas' Fate and Replacement: Choosing Church Leaders

Acts 01:12–26

1 *The essentials*

to choosing church leaders

- a. Essential 1: To obey Jesus — they returned to Jerusalem
- b. Essential 2:
To centre around the appointed leaders
 - 1) All eleven apostles were present
 - 2) Met where the apostles were staying
- c. Essential 3:
To be joined together constantly
- d. Essential 4:
To pray steadfastly
- e. Essential 5:
To have an appointed leader (Peter) who *willingly* leads
- f. Essential 6: To heed the leader

2 *The need for church leaders: Judas' fate and empty office*

- a. His betrayal:
A *guide* for evil
vs. a *guide* for good
- b. His call by Jesus:
To serve in the ministry
- c. His greed:
Corrupt
- d. His death:
Despair and suicide

12 Then they returned to Jerusalem from the hill called the Mount of Olives, a Sabbath day's walk from the city.

13 When they arrived, they went upstairs to the room where they were staying. Those present were Peter, John, James and Andrew; Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Mathew; James son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James.

14 They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

15 In those days Peter stood up among the believers (a group numbering about a hundred and twenty)

16 And said, "Brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled which the Holy Spirit spoke long ago through the mouth of David concerning Judas, who served as guide for those who arrested Jesus —

17 He was one of our number and shared in this ministry."

18 (With the reward he got for his wickedness, Judas bought a field; there he fell headlong, his body burst open and all his intestines spilled out.

<p>e. His legacy: Tragic</p>	<p>19 Everyone in Jerusalem heard about this, so they called that field in their language Akeldama, that is, Field of Blood.)</p>
<p>f. His terrible fate: An eternal loss</p>	<p>20 “For,” said Peter, “it is written in the book of Psalms, ‘May his place be deserted; let there be no one to dwell in it,’ and, ‘May another take his place of leadership.’</p>
<p>3 <i>The choosing of church leaders: The replacement for Judas</i></p>	<p>21 Therefore it is necessary</p>
<p>a. Leaders must be associates: Proven over a long period of time</p>	<p>to choose one of the men who have been with us the whole time the Lord Jesus went in and out among us,</p>
<p>b. Leaders must know the Lord Jesus personally: Have a personal knowledge of Him — be a witness of His resurrection</p>	<p>22 Beginning from John’s baptism to the time when Jesus was taken up from us. For one of these must become a witness with us of his resurrection.”</p>
<p>c. Leaders and their appointment require prayer</p>	<p>23 So they proposed two men: Joseph called Barsabbas (also known as Justus) and Mathias.</p>
<p>1) God alone knows the heart 2) God alone chooses</p>	<p>24 Then they prayed, “Lord, you know everyone’s heart. Show us which of these two you have chosen</p>
<p></p>	<p>25 To take over this apostolic ministry, which Judas left to go where he belongs.”</p>
<p>d. Leaders and their appointment require congregational consultation</p>	<p>26 Then they cast lots, and the lot fell to Mathias; so he was added to the eleven apostles.</p>