

New Testament Church  
*The Book of John #26 – John 13:21-38 – Overcoming Betrayal*  
August 16, 2026 - Pastor Paul Jehle

I The Gospel of John - Why expository preaching and why the Book of John at this time?

- A. Expository preaching brings depth, continuity and helps a congregation study together
  - 1. John reveals Christ as God – (eagle) - “behold your God” (Is. 40:9)
  - 2. The gospels reveal the “four faces” of Christ – king, servant, man, eagle
- B. John, author of John, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> John and Revelation was a disciple of John the Baptist
- C. One of the themes in John are the various *signs* that indicate critical aspects of Christ
  - 1. The **first SIGN** was water into wine (John 2) – there is New Life in Christ
  - 2. The **second SIGN** was healing the Nobleman’s son (John 4) – faith in Christ’s Word
  - 3. The **third SIGN** was healing the cripple (John 5) – Christ’s undeserving Grace
  - 4. The **fourth SIGN** feeding the 5,000 (John 6) – Christ is the bread of life
  - 5. The **fifth SIGN** of walking on water (John 6) – Transcendence of Bread (empowerment)
  - 6. The **sixth SIGN** of healing the man born blind (John 9) – Spiritual Sight (through Christ)
  - 7. The **seventh SIGN** of raising Lazarus from the dead (John 11) – Resurrection Life
- D. The **I AM** statements by Jesus – declaring who He is...
  - 1. In John 6 and 8 - I am the Bread of Life; I am the Light of the World
  - 3-4. In John 10 – I am the Door and I am the Good Shepherd
  - 5. In John 11 – I am the Resurrection and Life

II John 13:21-38 – Overcoming Betrayal – God’s intent **covenantal faithfulness** vs. hierarchy or bloodline

- A. v. 21-30 – The pain of betrayal – “violation of trust” - **higher the covenant deeper the hurt**
  - 1. v. 21 – Jesus was “troubled in spirit” being human – knowing who would betray him
  - 2. v. 22-25 – The hurt of those you trust betraying you is incremental based on the covenant
    - a. The disciples were a covenantal group – following a Rabbi was a covenant commitment
    - b. Covenant – to Word, Christ, the Church (attendance, fellowship) vertical and horizontal
    - c. Betrayal is breaking covenant at some level and the pain is reciprocal (Ps. 55:12-14)
    - d. It is part of our sin nature and this fallen world – we will betray/be betrayed
  - 3. v. 26-30 – Betrayal is the nature of Satanic evil – it is deep – Satan betrayed God Himself!
    - a. Isaiah 14:12-15 – woven into the judgment of Babylon is the story of Lucifer
    - b. His desire to break covenant (his creation place as the archangel of worship) and be like and rule God cast him down to the pit of evil where he is “chained” in darkness
    - c. We must avoid covenant-breaking or controlled covenants – but what is most important, ***the Kingdom only comes by those in covenant with God and in churches...***
      - a. As much as Jesus prepared the disciples, they could not perceive Judas betraying Jesus
- B. v. 31-38 – The Glory of God in His Presence (to you, O Lord, goes all credit); and *agape love*
  - 1. v. 31-32 – Jesus declared the Glory of God immediately *after* Judas left the room - refocus
    - a. “Now is the Son of man glorified” – **THE CROSS** – *grace and mercy* to fallen mankind
    - b. “God is glorified in him” – **ATONEMENT** – sacrifice – right with God
    - c. “If God be glorified in him, God shall also glorify him in himself” – **COVENANT FAITHFULNESS** of Christ glorified the Father, Father glorified in such faithfulness
    - d. Father “shall straightway glorify him” – **RESURRECTION** – Spirit raises the Son!
  - 2. v. 33-38 – “Little children” – as children they don’t understand – can’t follow now, but will...
    - a. A new *motive* of *agape love* (a choice regardless of response); see – Dt. 6:4; Lev. 19:18
    - b. “By this shall all know you are my disciples, if you have love for one another”
    - c. v. 36-37 - Peter asks “where are you going? ... I will lay down my life for you”
    - d. v. 38 - Jesus predicts that Peter will deny him before the cock crows three times...

***We overcome the pain of betrayal by a focus on Christ’s work on the Cross and expressing Agape Love***