

Judas Agrees to Betray Jesus

Here's your **Full Breakdown** of **MT 26:14-16** ❤️, **MK 14:10-11** ❤️, **LK 22:3-6** ❤️
— *Judas Agrees to Betray Jesus*.

Gospel Comparison Chart

Detail	❤️ Matthew 26:14–16	❤️ Mark 14:10–11	❤️ Luke 22:3–6
Setting/Time	Passion Week, before Passover; leaders already plotting	Passover/Unleavened Bread approaching; before Last Supper	Feast of Unleavened Bread approaching; need to avoid a crowd
Initiator	Judas goes to chief priests	Judas goes to chief priests	Satan enters Judas; he confers with chief priests & temple officers
Money/Amount	Thirty silver coins	Money promised (unspecified)	Money agreed (unspecified)
Unique Emphasis	Explicit amount; fulfills Zech. 11; from then he seeks an opportunity	Priests are glad; Judas seeks convenient moment	Spiritual warfare noted; temple guard involved; arrest away from crowds

Historical & Cultural Context

- **Timing** – This occurs during *Passion Week*, just before Passover (Nisan 14–15), possibly on Tuesday after Jesus taught from the Mount of Olives. Large crowds fill Jerusalem; leaders want to avoid a riot.
- **Political Climate** – The Sanhedrin had already determined Jesus must be killed (John 11:53), but they feared the people's reaction. They needed a discreet arrest away from the festival crowds.
- **Religious Leadership** – The chief priests were mostly Sadducees; the temple guard worked under their authority.
- **Thirty Silver Coins** – Equivalent to **30 shekels of Tyrian silver** (about 120 denarii, 4 months' wages for a laborer). This was the price set in **Exodus 21:32** for a slave accidentally killed — deeply insulting as the “value” placed on Jesus.
- **Betrayal with a Kiss** – Although not mentioned yet here, Judas' agreement sets the stage for this later act (Mark 14:44; Luke 22:48).

Key Greek Words

- **παράδω (paradō)** – “to hand over, deliver up, betray”; used for both legal handing over and treacherous betrayal.
- **ἀργύρια (argyria)** – “silver coins”; general term for money made of silver.
- **ἐξομολογέω (in context: 'consented')** – “to agree fully, consent to terms,” implying Judas knowingly accepted the moral cost.

Theological Themes

1. **Prophecy Fulfilled** – Matthew links directly to Zechariah 11:12–13 about thirty pieces of silver:
12 Then I said to them, “If it seems right to you, give me my wages; but if not, keep them.” So they weighed my wages, thirty pieces of silver. 13 “Throw it to the potter,” the LORD said to me—this magnificent price I was valued by them. So I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw it into the house of the LORD, to the potter.

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2. **Satan's Role** – Luke reveals the spiritual warfare dimension: Judas' decision was influenced by Satan, showing the cosmic battle behind the Passion.
3. **Human Responsibility** – Even with Satanic influence, Judas acts willingly (Luke 22:4, "he went away..."), showing personal accountability.
4. **Contrast of Loyalty** – While others plot to kill Him, Jesus is preparing the Last Supper — demonstrating love in the face of betrayal.



Messianic & OT Connections

- **Zechariah 11:12–13** – Shepherd rejected, valued at thirty pieces of silver, thrown to the potter in the Lord's house.
- **Psalms 41:9** – "Even my close friend, whom I trusted, who ate my bread, has lifted his heel against me."
- **Exodus 21:32** – Price of a slave — foreshadows Christ's servant role and humiliation.



Narrative Flow

1. **Leaders plot** – The Jewish authorities want Jesus dead but fear public backlash.
2. **Judas offers himself** – He initiates contact, possibly motivated by greed, disappointment, or both.
3. **Deal made** – Money promised; leaders rejoice at unexpected inside help.
4. **Opportunity sought** – Judas begins to watch for a private, crowd-free moment to hand over Jesus.