

30 PIECES of SILVER

“I said to them, If it is good in your sight, give me my wages; but if not, never mind! So they weighed out thirty shekels of silver as my wages. Then the Lord said to me, Throw it to the potter, that magnificent price at which I was valued by them. So I took the thirty shekels of silver and threw them to the potter in the house of the Lord.” Zechariah 11:12-13

In Old Testament times, thirty pieces of silver was the value of a slave accidentally gored to death by an ox. The amount given to the prophet Zechariah is an intentional insult for the rejected shepherd, who was a “pre-figure” of the Messiah. In a prophetic fulfillment that occurred centuries earlier, that same sum of thirty pieces of silver was all it took for Judas to agree to hand over Jesus to the Pharisees. Such a paltry sum really speaks of how lowly Jesus was viewed not only by Judas but also by the chief priests. They traded away the Savior of the world, the Son of God, the promised Messiah, for the price of a dead slave!

Take a moment and ponder what value you place on your relationship with Christ. How much is He worth to you? What have you been willing to “trade” your faith for in 2020? Did you trade away your witness for social acceptance because you were afraid someone would mock you because of your belief in and commitment to Christ? Have you given away your time and treasure to pursue ambition, an inappropriate relationship, or some habitual sin rather than spending your time, effort, and energy seeking first God and His Kingdom? How highly do you value your salvation and relationship with Jesus Christ?

Thought for the day:

You are worth more than 30 pieces of silver to Christ!

Prayer

Lord Jesus, You are my treasure and you are all that I need. Please forgive me for the times I have traded my faith for the cheap things that had no lasting value. Help me God to recommit my heart and life to You and to treasure the faith You've made possible for me and others who believe, trust, and follow You. Amen.