

# The Terre Haute

# SPEAKER

*“If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God...” (1 Peter 4:11).*

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## “LORD, IS IT I?”

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*“And the disciples did as Jesus had appointed them; and they made ready the passover. Now when even was come, he sat down with the twelve. And as they did eat, he said, Verily I say unto you, that one of you shall betray me. And they were exceeding sorrowful, and began every one of them to ask unto him, Lord, is it I?” (Mt. 26:19-22).* Events were rapidly unfolding. The dreaded hour of which Jesus had told them hovered over them like an ominous cloud. What would be the end of these things? How could Jesus even think that one of them would betray Him into the hands of enemies? The question they raised, one by one, was as if each one were asking, “Lord, please say I am not the one to do such a terrible thing.” Verse 25 shows that when Judas said, “Master, is it I?” then Jesus said to him “Thou hast said.” This indicates that each of them asked him privately, or out of the hearing of others. Soon after that, Judas left them with the others not knowing what he intended to do.

None of us was present that night. None of us made the evil bargain with the Jewish rulers. None of us pocketed the money. None of us led the temple guards to the garden to arrest Jesus. None of us placed the

betrayal kiss on his cheek. And yet, it is possible that any one of us could have done it. Was Judas the last man in history to sell his soul for money? The Hebrew writer described some who “fall away” and who refuse to be renewed again “unto repentance” and said they “crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh and put him to an open shame” (Heb. 6:4-6). The same writer described the willful sinner “who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace” (Heb. 10:29).

To this may be added the warning of Paul: “Wherefore, let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall” (1 Cor. 10:12). Peter warned “beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness” (2 Pet. 3:17). Peter said, “Judas by transgression fell” (Acts 1:25). What about us?

There are practical implications of the question, “Lord, is it I?” It is not, “Lord, is it George, or Bill, or Susan, or Ellen?” Let every one examine self to see if he is faithful (2 Cor. 13:5).

## THE CHURCH IS NOT GROWING AS IT SHOULD.

“Lord, is it I?” Am I the reason the church is not growing as it

should? “Well, we need more elders, deacons, teachers, and preachers.” Are *you* willing to qualify and serve? Are *you* willing to be the helpful companion to one who wants to serve? How many men have been hindered from such work because of wives who are not in subjection and children who are rebels? “Yes, but we are not baptizing as many as we should.” The Lord said the taught are to be baptized (Mt. 28:18-19). How many have *you* taught? To how many have *you* ever handed a gospel tract? How many have *you* ever invited to a Bible study in your home? How many have *you* invited even to a gospel meeting? “Well, the community does not know this church exists.” Is the church not made up of people? Do these people have no influence? Do they not work somewhere? Do not some go to school in the community? Are not Christians engaged in businesses in the community? Is all of that light under a basket? “Lord, is it I?”

**THE PEOPLE ARE NOT FRIENDLY.** “Lord, is it I?” Am I the one who turns and looks the other way to keep from speaking to someone? Am I the one who quickly slips into a tight-knit circle of family and friends and ignores the rest? Am I the one who races for the door when it is over?

**WE ARE NOT EVANGELIZING THE WORLD.** That may be true. *"Lord, is it I?"* Can *you* go? Will you go? If not, can you encourage and support someone who will go? Elders, are *you* doing what you can to encourage young people to give their lives to gospel work? Does the teaching program give emphasis to such needs? Have you put the congregation in the banking business with huge accounts accumulated with no plans for their use? And parents, what if your son wanted to go to Indonesia, Nigeria, or Brazil to preach the gospel, and *take your grandchildren*? And what if your daughter should marry such a nut? Would you dare to even plant the thought yourself? The world is *not* being evangelized as it should be. While we have worshipped at the shrine of materialism, doors of opportunity close in some nations. There are still doors open in nations where there are millions of people. Will we wait until those doors close? *"Lord, is it I?"*

**WE ARE LOSING OUR YOUNG PEOPLE.** Thank God, we are not losing all of them.

But many are being lost. We have slept in the same house, eaten at the same table, traveled in the same car, and grown apart morally and doctrinally. How did this happen? While we have men busy making a living, seeking entertainment, climbing the ladder of success, "finding ourselves," our children have been listening to humanism at school and to music which encourages lust, rebellion, paganism, suicide, and murder. They have been absorbing the decadent standards of the television and movie industries. Meanwhile, we have been too busy to read the Bible together, or pray together, or to keep in touch with what is going on at school. We offer them thirty minutes of "quality time" every third Wednesday and can't understand why they won't talk to us on schedule! We get them to ballgames, band practice, or camp in the summer, but see no reason to help them cultivate friendships with young people of *"like precious faith."* Those who are lost to the Lord were not lost all of a sudden. It was gradual — day by day. What a shame that it could happen without parents even suspecting what was taking place. *"Lord, is*

*it I?"*

It was our Lord who said, *"Grow in grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ."* It was He who said the taught should *"commit to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also."* It was our Lord who said fathers should bring up their children *"in the nurture and admonition of the Lord."* Do we betray Him when we ignore these things? Our Lord said, *"And why call ye me Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?"* (Lk. 6:46). *"Lord, is it I?"*

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## GOSPEL MEETING

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with  
**Connie Adams &  
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W on Margaret DR approx. 1 mile]

**Assembling Times:**  
Sunday @ 10:00 a.m. & 3:00 p.m.  
Wednesday @ 7:00 p.m.

***Come be with us!***



***We Speak Where the Bible Speaks.***

***We Are Silent Where the Bible Is Silent.***

***We Do Bible Things in Bible Ways.***

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