

*Does the bible say Judas went to hell?*

The bible does not say whether Judas went to heaven or hell. He appeared to have worldly sorrow which leads to death (Mt 27:3–10, Ac 1:16–20, 25) not godly sorrow which leads to life (2 Co 7:10).

Satan entered into Judas (Jn 13:27). First men will not repent--then they cannot repent (Lk 19:44). The bible encourages men to repent sooner rather than later. God alone decides how long to extend his offer of life (Josh 24:15, 2 Co 6:2) and he has warned that his spirit will not always strive with men (Ge 6:3).

God as holy (Lev 20:7) and men must be holy (1 Pe 1:16). Since men fall short of God's perfect standard (Mt 5:48), he has provided a way for them to become positionally righteous before him though they have no righteousness of their own (Ro 7:18). His son has served as a propitiation having died for man's sin (1 Pe 1:18, 19). In this way he is able to satisfy God's justice (Ro 3:25, 26) reconciling God and man (2 Co 5:18, 19). Men need only avail themselves of this opportunity (Jn 3:16) and received Christ as Lord and savior (Ro 10:13).

Judas knew all about this offer to live (2 Co 5:20, 21). He chose instead to turn his back on Jesus (Mt 26:14–16, Lk 6:16). Only God knows his heart in his last moments of life; but the scriptures do not indicate that he repented. In fact, the bible says that it would have been better for him never to have been born (Mt 26:24).

Compare Judas to Peter. Peter also turned his back on God (Mt 26:69–75); but he repented. The sorrow that he demonstrated was indeed godly sorrow (Mt 26:75). Though he denied Christ; he returned to Jesus and in time became bold in the faith (Ac 5:29–32).

In Proverbs, we read: A just man falleth seven times, and riseth up again: but the wicked shall fall into mischief (Pr 24:16). Falling down is understandable—getting up again is what matters.

Judas fulfilled prophecy. Because God is love (1 Jn 4:16) he would have preferred that Judas repent—love trumps prophecy.

It cost the Lord everything to save mankind. Salvation was not purchased with silver or gold (1 Pe 1:18) but with the precious blood of Christ (v 19).

The writer to the Hebrews stated:

For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries. Anyone who has rejected Moses' law dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace? For we know Him who said, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord. And again, "The Lord will judge His people." It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God. Heb 10:26–31, NKJV

True repentance (Ac 9:1–20) leads to remission of sin (Mk 1:4) and life eternal (Ac 11:18). Unreal repentance (Ex 9:27–35) leads to a second death (Re 20:14). Signs of true repentance include: reformation of life (Mt 3:8), restitution (Luke 19:8) and godly sorrow (2 Co 7:9, 10).<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Thomas Nelson Publishers. (1996). Nelson's quick reference topical Bible index (p. 526). Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson Publishers.