7—16. ST. MATTHEW. 181   
   
 14 Then one of the twelve, called Judas Iscariot, went   
 unto the chief priests, 15 and said unto them, ‘ What will ‘e213,   
 ye give me, and I will deliver him unto you? And they   
 covenanted with him for thirty pieces of silver. 16 And   
   
 from that time he sought opportunity to betray him.   
   
 been preached in the whole world,—and as over the who were more disposed   
 specifying the that this deed be to the reception divine things. In pro-   
 recorded wherever it preached. We may ion as he found our Lord’s progress   
 notice (1) that announcement is a dis- isappoint his anticipations, his   
 tinct prophetic recognition by our Lord attachment to Him give place to   
 of the existence of written records, in and aversion. The exhibition of miracles   
 which the deed should be related; for in alone could not keep him faithful, when   
 no other conceivable could the univer- once the deeper of the Lord’s   
 sality of mention be brought about: (e) divine Person fai We find by implica-   
 that we have here (if we needed it) tion a remarkable of this in John   
 @ convincing argument against that view vi. 60—66, 70, 71, the denunciation   
 of our three first which supposes of the one unfaithful among the Twelve   
 them to have been compiled from an ori- seems to point to the (then) state his   
 ginal document ; for there had been such mind, as beginning to be   
 a document, it must have contained this at Christ. Add to this, that latterly   
 narrative, and no one using such Gospel increasing clearness of the Lord’s an-   
 could have failed to insert narrative, nouncements of His approaching passion   
 accompanied by such ao mise, in his and death, while they opened the   
 own work,—which St. Luke has not done: eyes of the other Apostles some terrible   
 © that the same consideration equally event to come, without shaking their   
 lecisive St. Luke having used, or attachment to Him, was calculated to in-   
 even seen, our present of Matthew volve in more bitter disappointment and   
 and Mark. (4) As regards the practical disgust one so disposed to Him as Judas   
 use of the announcement, we see that was. The actually exciting of   
 though the honourable mention of a noble the adhesion, treachery at this enmity   
 deed is thereby recognized by our Lord as time may have authorities,—the reproof   
 a legitimate source of joy to us, yet by administered Lord in ch. ra the Saturday   
 the very nature of the case all to ing the breach irreparable,—and perhaps   
 such mention as a motive excluded. The His the triumphal entry followed, by   
 motive was love alone. it Cael oe his sonia would soon ne   
 the meeting of the Sanhedrim in ver. 3. place, and sl ning t! eas of the   
 As these verses bring before us the first traitor to prone by i these may   
 overt act of Luke xxii. 3—6. give have influenced him to apply to the chief’   
 also John xiii. to me the true estimate priests as he did. With to his   
 does not appear. In all probability, motive in general, I think that he   
 mediately after with that given jean- had any ign but that of gain, to   
 discourses, that Judas Ha first became be achieved by the darkest See   
 attached to our Lord with mach the same further on this the note on ch. xxvii. 3.   
 view as the other He a to 15.] The verb rendered covenanted   
 have been a man with a practical it «++. Jor, mean either weighed out,   
 this world’s which gave appointed. That the money was paid to   
 to his being appointed the Treasurer, or Judas (ch. xxvii. is no decisive   
 Bursar, of the (John xii. xiii. for the former meaning; for it may have   
 29). But the self-seeking, ele- been paid on the delivery Jesus to the   
 kere which his character had common Sanhedrim. The “ covenanted” of St.   
 with that of the Apostles, deeper and “promised ” of St.Mark would lead   
 rooted in him; and shoaporten and love to prefer other. thirty pieces of   
 Christ gained no such influence over him silver) Thirty the price of life   
 of a Exod. 32. Between three   
 and four pounds our money. St.