

~POTTER'S FIELD (83)

- After remorseful Judas threw into the temple the betrayal price of 30 pieces of silver, if shekels, \$66, the chief priests used the money to buy, the potter's field to bury strangers.
- Then Judas, who betrayed him, seeing he had been condemned, felt remorse and turned the thirty silver pieces back to the chief priests and older men. ([Matthew 27:3](#))
- Saying; I sinned when I betrayed righteous blood. They said; What is that to us? You must see to that! ([Matthew 27:4](#))
- So he threw the silver pieces into the temple and withdrew, and went off and hanged himself. ([Matthew 27:5](#))
- But the chief priests took the silver pieces and said; It is not lawful to drop them into the sacred treasury, because they are the price of blood. ([Matthew 27:6](#))
- After consulting together, they bought with them the **potter's field** to bury strangers. ([Matthew 27:7](#))
- Therefore that field has been called, **Field of Blood** to this very day. ([Matthew 27:8](#))
- Then what was spoken through Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled, saying; And they took the thirty silver pieces, the price upon the man that was priced, the one on whom some of the sons of Israel set a price. ([Matthew 27:9](#))
- And they gave them for the **potter's field**, according to what Yehowah had commanded me. ([Matthew 27:10](#))
- The field came to be known as **Akeldama**, or **Field of Blood**.
- This very man, therefore, purchased a field with the wages for unrighteousness, and pitching head foremost he noisily burst in his midst and all his intestines were poured out. ([Acts of Apostles 1:18](#))
- It also became known to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that

that field was called in their language **Akeldama**, that is, **Field of Blood**. (**Acts of Apostles 1:19**)

- Since the **Fourth Century C.E.** this field has been identified with a location on the South slope of the Hinnom Valley, just before it joins the Kidron Valley.

See Also AKELDAMA

- The expression, **the potter's field** does not specifically indicate whether the field was one simply owned by a **potter** or was called that because, at some point in its history, it was an area where **potters** pursued their craft.
- The latter, though, seems probable if the traditional site is correct. It would be near the Gate of the **Potsherds** or Gate of the **Potters**, [according to J. Simon's in his footnote in *Jerusalem in the Old Testament*, Leiden, 1952, p. 230], mentioned in;
- This is what Yehowah said; Go, and you must get an earthenware flask of a potter and some of the older men of the people and some of the older men of the priests. (**Jeremiah 19:1**)
- And you must go out to the valley of the son of Hinnom, which is at the entrance of the Gate of the **Potsherds**. And there you must proclaim the words that I shall speak to you. (**Jeremiah 19:2**)
- Rise up, and you must go down to the house of the **potter**, and there I shall cause you to hear my words. (**Jeremiah 18:2**)
- Even in recent times the necessary raw material, clay, has been available in the vicinity. Also, making **pottery** required a good water supply, and the site was close to the spring at En-rogel and the Pool of Siloam as well as near such water as might be in the Hinnom Valley in the winter.