

John 13 (NASB)

HUMILITY: JESUS AND THE FATHER (JOHN 13:1-5)

The Lord's Supper

¹Now before the Feast of the Passover, Jesus knowing that His hour had come that He would depart out of this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end. ²During supper, the devil having already put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, *the son* of Simon, to betray Him, ³Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come forth from God and was going back to God, ⁴got* up from supper, and laid* aside His garments; and taking a towel, He girded Himself.

⁵Then He poured* water into the basin, and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded.

- Humility grows out of our relationship with the Father.
- If our desire is to know and do the Father's will so that we might glorify His name, then we will experience the joy of following Christ's example and serving others.
- The church is filled with a worldly spirit of competition and criticism as believers vie with one another to see who is the greatest.
- We are growing in knowledge, but not in grace (see 2 Peter 3:18). Andrew Murray wrote: "The lack of humility is the sufficient explanation of every defect and failure."
- Jesus served His disciples because of His humility and because of His love.

HOLINESS: JESUS AND PETER (JOHN 13:6-11)

Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet

⁶So He came* to Simon Peter. He said* to Him, "Lord, do You wash my feet?" ⁷Jesus answered and said to him, "**What I do you do not realize now, but you will understand hereafter.**" ⁸Peter said* to Him, "Never shall You wash my feet!" Jesus answered him, "**If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me.**" ⁹Simon Peter said* to Him, "Lord, *then wash* not only my feet, but also my hands and my head." ¹⁰Jesus said* to him, "**He who has bathed needs only to wash his feet, but is completely clean; and you are clean, but not all of you.**" ¹¹For He knew the one who was betraying Him; for this reason He said, "**Not all of you are clean.**"

- The word translated "wash" in John 13:5-6, 8, 12, and 14 is *nipto* and means "to wash a part of the body."
 - But the word translated "washed" in John 13:10 is *louo* and means "to bathe all over."
 - The distinction is important, for Jesus was trying to teach His disciples the importance of a holy walk.
1. When the sinner trusts the Saviour, he is "bathed all over" and his sins are washed away and forgiven (see 1 Cor. 6:9-11; Titus 3:3-7; and Rev. 1:5). "And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more" (Heb. 10:17).
 2. However, as the believer walks in this world, it is easy to become defiled. He does not need to be bathed all over again; he simply needs to have that defilement cleansed away.
 - a. God promises to cleanse us when we confess our sins to Him (1 John 1:9).

3. But why is it so important that we “keep our feet clean”? Because if we are defiled, we cannot have communion with our Lord. “If I wash thee not, thou hast no part with Me” (John 13:8).
 - a. The word translated “part” is *meros*, = “participation, having a share in someone or something.” When God “bathes us all over” in salvation, He brings about our *union* with Jesus and that is a settled relationship that cannot change. (The verb *wash* in John 13:10 is in the perfect tense. It is settled once and for all.)
 - b. However, our *communion* with Jesus depends on our keeping ourselves “unspotted from the world” (James 1:27). If we permit unconfessed sin in our lives, we hinder our walk with the Lord; and that is when we need to have our feet washed.

Old Testament Illustration

- When the priest was consecrated, he was bathed all over (Ex. 29:4), and that experience was never repeated.
- However, during his daily ministry, he became defiled; so it was necessary that he wash his hands and feet at the brass laver in the courtyard (Ex. 30:18-21).
- Only then could he enter the holy place and trim the lamps, eat the holy bread, or burn the incense.

New Testament Revelation

- The Lord cleanses us through the blood of Christ:
 - His work on the cross (1 John 1:5-10)
 - His Word working in our lives (Ps. 119:9; John 15:3; Eph. 5:25-26).
 - The “water of the Word” can keep our hearts and minds clean so that we will avoid the pollutions of this world. But if we do sin, we have a loving Advocate in glory who will hear our prayers of confession and forgive us (1 John 2:1-2).

HAPPINESS: JESUS AND THE DISCIPLES (JOHN 13:12-17)

¹²So when He had washed their feet, and taken His garments and reclined *at the table* again, He said to them, “Do you know what I have done to you? ¹³“You call Me Teacher and Lord; and you are right, for so I am. ¹⁴“If I then, the Lord and the Teacher, washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. ¹⁵“For I gave you an example that you also should do as I did to you. ¹⁶“Truly, truly, I say to you, a slave is not greater than his master, nor *is* one who is sent greater than the one who sent him. ¹⁷“**IF YOU KNOW THESE THINGS, YOU ARE BLESSED IF YOU DO THEM.**”

- It is not enough just to *know* this truth; we must put it into practice.
- James 1:22-27 makes it clear that the blessing comes in the *doing* of the Word, not the hearing.
- Kenneth Wuest translates the last phrase in James 1:25, “This man shall be prospered spiritually in his doing.”
- Studying God’s Word can stir us emotionally or enlighten us intellectually; but it cannot bless us spiritually until we do what Jesus told us to do. This is the only way to lasting happiness.

Be sure to keep these lessons in their proper sequence:

1. Humbleness = Submit to the Father
2. Holiness = keep your life clean
3. Happiness = serve others

Humbleness + Holiness + Happiness = God’s formula for true spiritual joy!

HYPOCRISY: JESUS AND JUDAS (JOHN 13:18-35)

18“I do not speak of all of you. I know the ones I have chosen; but *it is that the Scripture may be fulfilled, ‘HE WHO EATS MY BREAD HAS LIFTED UP HIS HEEL AGAINST ME.’* **19**“From now on I am telling you before *it* comes to pass, so that when it does occur, you may believe that I am *He*. **20**“Truly, truly, I say to you, he who receives whomever I send receives Me; and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me.”

Jesus Predicts His Betrayal

21When Jesus had said this, He became troubled in spirit, and testified and said, **“Truly, truly, I say to you, that one of you will betray Me.”** **22**The disciples *began* looking at one another, at a loss *to know* of which one He was speaking. **23**There was reclining on Jesus’ bosom one of His disciples, whom Jesus loved. **24**So Simon Peter gestured* to him, and said* to him, “Tell *us* who it is of whom He is speaking.” **25**He, leaning back thus on Jesus’ bosom, said* to Him, “Lord, who is it?” **26**Jesus then answered*, **“That is the one for whom I shall dip the morsel and give it to him.”** **So when He had dipped the morsel, He took* and gave* it to Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot.** **27**After the morsel, Satan then entered into him. **Therefore Jesus said* to him, “What you do, do quickly.”** **28**Now no one of those reclining *at the table* knew for what purpose He had said this to him. **29**For some were supposing, because Judas had the money box, that Jesus was saying to him, “Buy the things we have need of for the feast”; or else, that he should give something to the poor. **30**So after receiving the morsel he went out immediately; and it was night.

31Therefore when he had gone out, Jesus said*, **“Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in Him; *32*if God is glorified in Him, God will also glorify Him in Himself, and will glorify Him immediately.** **33**“Little children, I am with you a little while longer. You will seek Me; and as I said to the Jews, now I also say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ **34**“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. **35**“By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”

A Quick Note about Judas:

- Yes, Jesus washed Judas’ feet! But it did Judas no good because he had not been bathed all over.
- Some people teach that Judas was a saved man who sinned away his salvation, but that is not what Jesus said.
- Jesus made it very clear that Judas had never been cleansed from his sins and was an unbeliever (John 6:64-71).

Conclusion

36Simon Peter said* to Him, “Lord, where are You going?” Jesus answered, **“Where I go, you cannot follow Me now; but you will follow later.”** **37**Peter said* to Him, “Lord, why can I not follow You right now? I will lay down my life for You.” **38**Jesus answered*, **“Will you lay down your life for Me? Truly, truly, I say to you, a rooster will not crow until you deny Me three times.**

Great Questions:

John 13:6 (NLT) ⁶When Jesus came to Simon Peter, Peter said to him, “Lord, are you going to wash my feet?”

John 13:12 (NLT) ¹²After washing their feet, he put on his robe again and sat down and asked, **“Do you understand what I was doing?”**

John 13:36 (NLT) ³⁶Simon Peter asked, “Lord, where are you going?”
And Jesus replied, **“You can’t go with me now, but you will follow me later.”**

John 13:37 (NLT) ³⁷“But why can’t I come now, Lord?” he asked. “I’m ready to die for you.”

John 13:38 (NASB) ³⁸Jesus answered*, **“Will you lay down your life for Me? Truly, truly, I say to you, a rooster will not crow until you deny Me three times.**

Great statements:

John 13:17 (NASB) ¹⁷“If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

Great Mysteries:

John 13:10 (NLT) ¹⁰Jesus replied, “A person who has bathed all over does not need to wash, except for the feet, to be entirely clean. And you disciples are clean, but not all of you.”

The Lord's Timetable:

1. Sunday: Jesus had entered Jerusalem
2. Monday: Jesus had cleansed the temple.
3. Tuesday: Jesus had a day of conflict with the religious leaders who tried to trip Him up and get evidence to arrest Him. *(These events are recorded in Matthew 21-25)*
4. Wednesday: Jesus may have rested in preparation for the Passion.
5. Thursday: Jesus met in the Upper Room with His disciples in order to observe Passover.
6. Friday: Jesus was tried, sentenced and executed.
7. Saturday: Jesus body rested in the grave
8. Sunday: Jesus rose triumphantly. He lives! He is risen!

The Jews did NOT kill Jesus

The Romans did NOT kill Jesus

The Pharisees did NOT kill Jesus

Pilate and King Herod did NOT kill Jesus

We did NOT kill Jesus

Jesus, at the pre-ordained time, voluntarily and deliberately, with precision timely perfection.....laid down His own life for us!!

Jesus knew that “His hour was come.” The Father’s “heavenly timetable”:

2:4—“Mine hour is not yet come.”

7:30—“His hour was not yet come.”

8:20—“His hour was not yet come.”

12:23—“The hour is come that the Son of man should be glorified.”

13:1—“Jesus knew that His hour was come.”

17:1—“Father, the hour is come.”

When the servant of God is in the will of God, he is immortal until his work is done. They could not even arrest Jesus, let alone kill Him, until the right hour had arrived.

Monday Morning Moment:

To deepen your fellowship with the Lord-----be honest with Him and with yourselves and keep your feet clean.

PSALMS 139:23 - 24 (KJV)

²³ SEARCH ME, O GOD, AND KNOW MY HEART: TRY ME, AND KNOW MY THOUGHTS:

²⁴ AND SEE IF *THERE BE ANY* WICKED WAY IN ME, AND LEAD ME IN THE WAY EVERLASTING.

Homework Q & A: *(Please use scripture where appropriate to support your answers.) Note: There could be more than one correct answer.*

1. Please read (or re-read) John 13 and write your own definitions for the following 4 words:

HUMILITY: JESUS AND THE FATHER (JOHN 13:1-5)

HOLINESS: JESUS AND PETER (JOHN 13:6-11)

HAPPINESS: JESUS AND THE DISCIPLES (JOHN 13:12-17)

HYPOCRISY: JESUS AND JUDAS (JOHN 13:18-35)

2. What lesson can you take away from John 13 and begin applying it to your life today?
3. Why is taking communion (The Lord's Supper) a very serious ordinance of the church? What are the benefits of receiving the elements? What are the risks?
4. What does the Cross of Jesus mean to you today, right now?