

## Jesus Final Instructions John 13-17 - 11/06/22

### Jesus Foretells Christian Service

#### TEXT – John 13:13-16

**INTRO – Jesus took a towel. Began to wash ...** - It was by the office of a servant to wash the feet of guests. In chapters 13 and following Jesus turns from an unbelieving world to minister to His inner circle of disciples. He gives these last days of instruction in the upper room to his most dedicated followers. This action sets forth the principle of lowly service and asks the followers of Jesus to be like Him, not like the world.

**John 1:11** *He came unto his own, and his own received him not.*

#### Three important lessons for all Christians.

#### I. A Lesson on Humility John 13:1-5

Jesus' foot-washing was an example of humility and service (Joh 13:15). In Middle Eastern countries, it was the servants who washed the feet of guests; here Christ took the place of a servant. He makes this clear to His disciples: if their Lord and Teacher has washed their feet, then they should wash one another's feet and serve each other in humility. This must have been a striking rebuke to the Twelve, for just that evening they had been debating who was to be the greatest! **Luke 22:24-27**.

Christ's actions represent what He did when He left heaven to come to earth. He arose from His throne, laid aside the outward expression of His glory, became a servant, and humbled Himself to die on a cross.

**Philippians 2:5-11** *Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: 7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: 8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. 9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: 10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; 11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

After He had completed the work of redemption, He put on His garments and sat down **John 13:12** *So after he had washed their feet, and had taken his garments, and was set down again, he said unto them, Know ye what I have done to you foreshadowing His resurrection, ascension to glory, and enthronement at the Father's right hand.*

Peter must have recalled this lesson on humility. **1 Peter 5:5-6** *Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:*

Too many Christians today are fighting for recognition and position and need to recall this lesson in humility. God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble.

#### II. A Lesson on Holiness John 13:6-17

Christ's words to Peter in **John 13:8** *Peter saith unto him, Thou shalt never wash my feet. Jesus answered him, If I wash thee not, thou hast no part with me.*

- There is a difference between union and communion. Peter was in union with Christ as one of "His own" through faith, but sin can break our communion with the Lord.
- There is a difference between sonship and fellowship. Only as we allow Christ to cleanse us can we remain in fellowship with Him and enjoy His presence and power.

**John 13:10** *Jesus saith to him, He that is washed needeth not save to wash his feet, but is clean every whit: and ye are clean, but not all.*

- Christ makes an important distinction between washing and cleansing.

**The verse means:** *"He that has been once-and-for-all washed all over does not need to do anything more than cleanse his feet."*

- **When we are saved, we are washed all over**

**1 Corinthians 6:9-11** *Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.*

**Titus 3:5-6** *Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour;*

When we confess our daily sins to the Lord, we have our feet washed and our "walk" is cleansed **1 John 1:7-9** *But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

- When the Jewish priests were ordained, they were washed all over **Ex. 29:4** which pictures our once-for-all cleansing;
- **But God also provided the laver Ex. 30:17-21** for them to use in the daily washing of their hands and feet.

Today, Christ is cleansing His church through the water of the Word **Ephesians 5:25-27** *Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.*

**John 15:3** *Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.* As we daily read the Word, allow the Spirit to search our hearts **Heb. 4:12** and then confess our sins, we keep our feet clean and walk in the light. **Psalms 119:9** *Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word.*

It is this daily cleansing that keeps the believer in communion with Christ. **The lesson here has nothing to do with “getting” or “losing” one’s salvation.** It is strictly a matter of communion, fellowship with Christ. Many believers make the same mistake Peter made; they want to be saved (washed) all over again when all they need is to have their feet washed.

### **III. A Lesson on Hypocrisy John 13:18-38)**

Judas was in the Upper Room, pretending to be Christ’s own.

**John 13:10-11** *Jesus saith to him, He that is washed needeth not save to wash his feet, but is clean every whit: and ye are clean, but not all. For he knew who should betray him; therefore said he, Ye are not all clean.*

Christ made it very clear that He knew one of them was not saved.

So successful was Judas’ deception that even the other apostles did not realize he was a counterfeit.

**Christ first quoted Psalms 41:9** *Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up his heel against me.*

**John 13:18** to show that He would be betrayed.

Christ had just washed Judas’ feet; now Judas would lift up his heel against Christ!

Yet Christ’s death on the cross would defeat Satan, who was using Judas as his tool **John 13:2, 27.**

Satan first plants the thought in the heart, then enters into the person to control the life. Christ quoted this verse to the Twelve to keep them from stumbling in unbelief **John 13:19** *Now I tell you before it come, that, when it is come to pass, ye may believe that I am he.*

- **The Christian who knows the Word will not be easily discouraged by the defeats that occur along the way.**

In **John 13:21**, Christ openly told the disciples that one of their number would betray Him. This statement was a final warning to Judas.

John, leaning on Jesus’ bosom, found out the secret and conveyed it to Peter, but apparently none of the men clearly understood the meaning of the Lord’s words **John 13:28.**

When Judas accepted the sop, he finally yielded to Satan, who entered into him, making Judas a child of the devil. **John 8:44** *Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.* Like the Holy Spirit, Satan works in and through human bodies and wills that are surrendered to him.

It is a dangerous thing to be a person like Judas. **Mark 14:21** . . . *but woe to that man by whom the Son of man is betrayed! good were it for that man if he had never been born.*

Judas pretended to be a Christian; he played with sin; he put off salvation; and any person who does these things may end up wishing he or she had never been born.

There are some mysteries surrounding Judas, but one thing is clear: Judas made a deliberate choice when he betrayed Christ. In **Joh 6:66-71**, Christ warned Judas and called him “a devil.” Peter thought Judas was saved, for he said, “We believe!” Jesus knew that Judas had never believed and therefore was not saved.

After Judas left the room, Jesus warned Peter about his own approaching testing and failures.

**Peter was anxious to discover another’s sin John 13:24;** now he had to face his own sin. “Judge not, that you be not judged”

Peter’s boast showed his lack of understanding of his own heart.

Self-confidence is dangerous in the Christian life.

- **We have nothing to boast of but Christ.**

**Galatians 2:20** *I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.*

**CONCL –**