

*Morning Sermon October 28, 2018*  
*About Christ, About Us, A Different King and Kingdom*  
*John 13:1-17*

*I. About Christ, Who He is, was, and what He does –*

*1. The fulfillment of the Passover –*

**Now before the feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that His hour had come that He should depart from this world ... (John 13:1A NKJ)**

**Therefore purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us. (1 Corinthians 5:7 NKJ)**

*2. The Eternal Son of God the Father -*

**... His hour had come that He should depart from this world to the Father, ... (John 13:1B NKJ)**

*3. The lover of His people's souls –*

**having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end. (John 13:1C NKJ)**

*4. A Stranger, Alien, even an Enemy to an ungodly world –*

**And supper being ended, the devil having already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray Him, (John 13:2 NKJ)**

*5. A humble servant –*

**Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come from God and was going to God,<sup>4</sup> rose from supper and laid aside His garments, took a towel and girded Himself.<sup>5</sup> After that, He poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe *them* with the towel with which He was girded. (John 13:3-5 NKJ)**

*A. Washing feet was a strange thing for the King of kings, Son of God, Creator and the LORD of the Universe to be doing!*

*B. So strange that Peter at first refused –*

**.<sup>6</sup> Then He came to Simon Peter. And Peter said to Him, "Lord, are You washing my feet?"<sup>7</sup> Jesus answered and said to him, "What I am doing you do not understand now, but you will know after this."<sup>8</sup> Peter said to Him, "You shall never wash my feet!" (John 13:6-8 A NKJ)**

*C. This shows us how different God is than we are*

**Let the wicked forsake his way, And the unrighteous man his thoughts; Let him return to the LORD, And He will have mercy on him; And to our God, For He will abundantly pardon.<sup>8</sup> "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways," says the LORD.<sup>9</sup> "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts. (Isaiah 55:7-9 NKJ)**

*II. See how necessary Christ's cleaning us is –*

**Peter said to Him, "You shall never wash my feet!" Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me."<sup>9</sup> Simon Peter said to Him, "Lord, not my feet only, but also *my hands and my head!*"<sup>10</sup> Jesus said to him, "He who is bathed needs only to wash *his feet*, but is completely clean; and you are clean, but not all of you."<sup>11</sup> For He knew who would betray Him; therefore He said, "You are not all clean." (John 13:8-11 NKJ)**

*1. Here we see that Jesus' washing of His disciples' feet was symbolic of a deeper, moral and spiritual washing –*

*A. No washing no part with Jesus, is not just talking about dirty feet, rather dirty souls, though feet also symbolize how we WALK, our actions in a sin-world, almost impossible not to get dirty*

*B. Jesus washing their feet with water foreshadowed the death He would soon die for their sins –*

**and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, (Revelation 1:5 NKJ)**

*C. Not all were clean, referring to Judas, what a dreadful thing to be unclean –*

**<sup>7</sup> "He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son. <sup>8</sup> "But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death." (Revelation 21:7-8 NKJ)**

*How do people overcome? The same way they get clean - "And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death. (Revelation 12:11 NKJ)*

### III. About us -

<sup>12</sup> So when He had washed their feet, taken His garments, and sat down again, He said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you?" <sup>13</sup> "You call me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am." <sup>14</sup> "If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet." <sup>15</sup> "For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you." <sup>16</sup> "Most assuredly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master; nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him." <sup>17</sup> "If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them."

As Christ is different He expects us also to be different:

- He washed their feet, a lowly job, of the lowest servant
- He does it as their and our teacher
- He says we are blessed if we know and do them

1. His disciples still needed to learn this, we all do –

A. This makes us different than what we are by nature –

Now there was also a dispute among them, as to which of them should be considered the greatest. (Luke 22:24 NKJ)

B. Love and meekness are both fruits of the Spirit –

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. (Galatians 5:22-23 NKJ)

C. This makes us different than an ungodly world –

<sup>25</sup> And He said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them, and those who exercise authority over them are called 'benefactors.'" <sup>26</sup> "But not so among you; on the contrary, he who is greatest among you, let him be as the younger, and he who governs as he who serves. (Luke 22:25-26 NKJ)

D. This makes us LIKE CHRIST -

<sup>27</sup> "For who is greater, he who sits at the table, or he who serves? Is it not he who sits at the table? Yet I am among you as the One who serves. (Luke 22:27 NKJ)

Chap. 22, ver. 27.—"I am among you as He that serves."

"We find in these words a double reference: (1) To the character, and (2) to the office, of the Son of Man; to His character as the Lowly One, to His office as a servant. For the purpose of bringing both these things before His disciples

He makes use of those marvellous words: "I am among you as the serving one." Consider three things in reference to this service: (1) Its history; (2) its nature; (3) the ends and objects which it is intended to meet.

I. Its history. It is not with His birth in Bethlehem that Christ's service begins. His visit to our first father in Paradise was its true commencement (*meaning Christ had some sort of ministry / service even to Adam*) After that we find Him, age after age, visiting the children of men, and always in the character of one ministering to their wants (needs). At His birth His life of service visibly began.

II. Its nature. (1) It is willing service. (2) It is a loving service. (3) It is self-denying service. (4) It is patient, unwearied service. (5) It is free service.

III. Its ends and objects. It is to sinners that this service is rendered; and there is much in this to exhibit the ends which it has in view. We need forgiveness, cleansing, healing, strength, wisdom, faith, protection. He ministers these to us, according to our need. In every scene and place and duty and struggle and trial He will be at our side, as the servant, to minister to us in everything, so that in nothing we may be found lacking."

H. BONAR, *Short Sermons*, p. 70.

Being like Christ in character, and action, this is the High Calling of God!

*The Apostle Paul was also a doulos, so was Timothy, a bond-slave of Christ, a servant –*

Paul and Timothy, bondservants of Jesus Christ, ... (Philippians. 1:1 NKJ)

Therefore if *there is any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and mercy,* <sup>2</sup> fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, *being of one accord, of one mind.* <sup>3</sup> Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. <sup>4</sup> Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others. <sup>5</sup> Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, <sup>7</sup> but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, *and coming in the likeness of men.* <sup>8</sup> And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to *the point of death, even the death of the cross.* <sup>9</sup> Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, <sup>10</sup> that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and *that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.* (Philippians 2:1-11 NKJ)

*Arnold A. Brevick*