

H O U S E o f W I S D O M
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John 13

Wash One Another's Feet

Read John 13:1-2:

1. Does this supper take place at Passover, or prior to the Passover ?

{Many believe this meal was the one at Simon's house two days before Passover, Mt 26:2, 6. Thus we have the reason some churches have foot washing with communion and others do not. However, the accounts of Matthew & Mark, at Simon's supper, record nothing of Jesus saying, "his hour has come," whereas John mentions this the next day after the supper at Simon's (Jn 12:23), after Jesus entered Jerusalem. John said that Jesus knew prior to the Passover meal that his time had come; and by this time, it was already in the heart of Judas to betray Jesus - i.e. Judas already had the 30 pieces of silver in his pocket (Lk 22:1-6) two days before Passover. Actual Greek: 1. Now^(g1161) before the feast of the Passover, having known Jesus that had come his hour that he might depart out of this world to the Father (Jn 12:23), having loved his own which (were) in the world, to (the) end he loved them. 2. And supper having come, the devil already (now^{g2235} in KJ) having put into the heart of Judas, Simon's (son), Iscariot, that him he might betray; In John chapters 13-17 are the things Jesus said after the main meal was over, then they all went to the garden. Communion was instituted during the meal, mentioned by Matthew (Mt 26:26-29), Mark & Luke. Only John mentions the foot-washing. **Why** did John include it & not mention the bread & wine symbols? The overall theme of John's writings is love. The bread & wine were well covered by other writers, but apparently only John saw the washing the feet of others as an act of love.

Read John 13:3-7:

2. Peter asked, *Do you wash my feet?* What does Jesus' answer to the question tell us about the foot-washing? {Did Peter & the disciples know that Jesus was washing their feet? Jesus implied, verse 7, that there was more to this than Peter and the other disciples understood at the time.}

2a. Verse 4-5: What position did Jesus place himself in when he washed the disciples feet?

{Lk 12:35-40: Jesus humbled himself as a servant; the meal & foot-washing he made spiritual types; Rv 3:20}

Read John 13:8-12: (If I do not wash your feet, you have no part with me; If I do, you are completely clean)

3. Jesus asked (verse 12) if they knew what he had done: What lesson is Jesus teaching? Eph 5:26; Jn 15:3 {feet - Ps 119:59, 101, 105 - direction of the thoughts of the heart. Clean or pure - Tit 1:15}

3a. To whom was Jesus referring when he said, “not all are clean?” Mt 26:14-16
{Jesus spiritually washed the feet of Judas over three years with the water of the word, & still he betrayed Jesus.
What does that say about the danger & struggle we might have in our time?}

Read John 13:13-17:

4. Was Jesus instructions to wash one another’s feet literally, or in the spiritual sense? Verses 7, 10

4a. How are we to wash one another’s feet? Suggestions: Mt 10:32-33; Lk 12:8-9; Rom 10:9; Jam 5:16; 1Jn 1:5-10

Read John 13:18-30: I tell you before it happens, that when it comes to pass you may believe.

5. What did Jesus tell them? Verses 21, 26; Mt 26:21-25

{Jesus acknowledged that the disciples called him “Lord & Teacher” Jn 13:13-14. It is interesting that except for Judas, the disciples used the term “Lord” when asking if each were the betrayer. Judas used the term “Teacher.”}

Two accounts say, “he that dips his hand with me in the dish betrays me,” Mt 26:23; Mk 14:20; Luke 22:21 states it as *the hand of him that betrays me is with me on the table*. John wrote that Jesus specifically identified the betrayer by dipping a piece of bread & giving it to Judas. Note Ps 41:9: *Even a man, my friend, in whom I trusted, who ate of my bread, has lifted up his heel against me.* (MKJV)

6. Today, how can one who is walking with Jesus, might at the same time betray him? Jn 6:36, 14; Isa 30:20-21
{In the context of Isa 30, God’s children are trusting in Egypt, verses 1-2, whose pride (Hebrew *rahab*, emblematic of Egypt) is to sit still, or do nothing, NIV. Egypt is a type for the world’s way of thinking. All start out with teachers who do not know the whole truth (i.e. we all started in spiritual Babylon Jer 29:8-9). Some will see & walk in the light, & learn to discern between false & true teachings by study & searching for truth (cf Jer 29:11-13.)}