

The Feet Of Judas

Introduction.

- I. One of the most moving stories in the life of Christ is found in John the 13th chapter.
 - A. Jesus is in the upper room with His 12 disciples.
 - B. Please listen as I read verses 1-20.

1 Now before the Feast of the Passover, Jesus knowing that His hour had come that He should depart out of this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end. 2 And during supper, the devil having already put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon, to betray Him, 3 Jesus, 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, 4 rose from supper, and laid aside His garments; and taking a towel, He girded Himself about. 5 Then 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. 6 And so He came to Simon Peter. He said to Him, "Lord, do You wash my feet?" 7 Jesus answered and said to him, "What I do you do not realize now, but you shall understand hereafter." 8 Peter said to Him, "Never shall You wash my feet!" Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me." 9 Simon Peter said to Him, "Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head." 10 Jesus 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." 11 For He knew the one who was betraying Him; for this reason He said, "Not all of you are clean." 12 And so 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; neither is one who is sent greater than the one who sent him. JOH 13:17 "If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them. 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."

II. There are many lessons we can learn from this beautiful account of Jesus washing the feet of His 12 disciples, but I would like to briefly discuss a point that most have never thought about.

III. I have entitled this devotional, "The Feet of Judas."

I. **Most Of Us Think We Understand The Action Of Jesus** - Most of us think we understand the action of Jesus.

A. When we read the story of Jesus washing the disciple' feet, we may think we understand why He was doing that for them.

1. **John**, for instance, was a close friend. He was perhaps the closest of all to Jesus.
2. Then there was **Peter** and **Andrew**, who had been so faithful in following the Master.
3. **Each of the disciples** must have had something that endeared him to Jesus.
4. **Jesus dearly loved all the disciples, and He had chosen them to be His special messengers.**

B. **But why did He wash the feet of Judas?**

1. Jesus knew Judas was a thief. He knew Judas who pretended to be His friend was about to betray Him.
2. He knew that He was stooping down to serve the one who would soon stoop to perform history's worst act of treachery.
3. He knew He was washing the feet of a man who held Him in such low esteem that he would join forces with those who hated Him.
4. Jesus was performing the most menial of tasks for a person who was about to sell Him out for 30 pieces of silver - the price of a slave.
5. **What contempt Judas had for Jesus!** After all Jesus had done for him, he sold him out to men who intended to beat, humiliate, and crucify Him. He sold Him out to men who intended to let the corpse of Jesus rot on the cross or at best throw His body in a garbage heap to be eaten by wild animals.

II. **Something Special About Service** - Jesus teaches us something special about service.

- A. He teaches us that we are not called to service **only those who are like us** and **those who care for us.**
- B. We are called to serve all people - the lovely and the unlovely, the friendly and the not-so-friendly.
- C. We are called to serve those who love us and those who hate us.
- D. Our service is to be rendered to all men especially to those of the household of faith.

III. **A Powerful Question** - I ask a powerful question.

- A. When is the last time we “washed the feet” of someone like Judas? By this question I mean serve someone who hates us and has utter contempt for us.
- B. **What love and humility Jesus had.** He was willing to wash the feet of an enemy.
 - 1. Those who walk in the footsteps of Jesus will have that same love and humility. (Matt. 20:27, 28).
 - 2. We must have the mind of Christ. (Phil. 2:3-7).

3 Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind let each of you regard one another as more important than himself; 4 do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others. 5 Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, 6 who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men.

- a. Paul informs us that Jesus left the glories of heaven and came to earth to serve.
- b. During His life He taught men about how to please God and “went about doing good.” (Acts 10:38).
- c. He was even willing to serve man by dying for mankind. He gave up His life that men might be saved. He gave His life for those who were committing every kind of sin and abomination.
- d. **Paul teaches we are to have the mind of Christ.**
 - 1) We must regard others as more important than ourselves.
 - 2) We must be placed on earth to serve God.
 - 3) We serve God by serving others.

Conclusion.

I. Someone wrote,

When Jesus took a servant's towel—
His honor set aside—
He humbly showed us how to serve,
And how to conquer pride. —Sper

II. Another writer wrote, “It's difficult to stand on a pedestal and wash the feet of those below.—Colson

III. We now extend the invitation to all who want the salvation Jesus offers, and are willing to serve as Jesus served.

- A. Put Christ on in baptism and then live a life of service as He did.
- B. Come as we stand and sing.

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