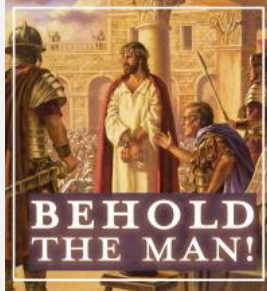


A God Who Loves



Holy / Maundy Thursday, April 10, 2019 at 11 & 7

Good Friday at 11 & 7 | **Easter Sunday at 7, 8:30, 9:30, 10:45**

Introduction: Dear friends in Christ: This is the final part of our current series: *Behold the Man!* Jesus is both the *Son of God* and the *Son of Man*. Way before He was Jesus, *He created all things!* Then, *at just the right time*, He put on human flesh *in order to be our sinless substitute!*

Jesus showed love for His Father – *by living in perfect obedience to His will!* In today's text, Jesus showed love for His disciples – *by washing their feet!* As we go through today's text from [John chapter 13](#), may the Holy Spirit help us to *rightly understand* and *be moved to love others!*

- The Setting:** ¹ **Now before the Feast of the Passover** [*in the evening, just before they ate the meal*], **when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end** [*in other words, He had come this far, and He wasn't about to stop now*]. ² **During supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him,** ³ **Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his**

hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God, ⁴ **rose from supper.** // Think about Jesus:

✦ God the Father had given Him all authority and ✦ the end of His mission to remove the sins of the world was drawing near; *therefore*, He “**rose from supper**” to wash feet! Why? (1) Jesus and His disciples were about to eat the Passover meal, *which pointed ahead to Jesus’ sacrifice*; (2) with dirt roads and sandals, *their feet were very dirty*; (3) no servant was present to do the washing; and (4) none of the disciples took action to do the washing; therefore, Jesus – *the Son of God* – took radical action!

2. **The Washing:**

a. Others: **[Jesus] laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist.** ⁵ **Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples’ feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him.** // Try to imagine how awkward that moment must have been: They ✦ all knew of the need for the washing AND ✦ watched Jesus prepare to wash – yet, sadly, *no one took His place.*

b. Peter:

i. ⁶ **He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, “Lord, do you wash my feet?”** ⁷ **Jesus answered him, “What I am doing you do not understand now, but afterward you will understand.”** // When Peter called Jesus “**Lord,**” *he placed Jesus VERY HIGH*, yet he knew he himself was very low. To Peter, it just didn’t seem right; instead, *he should be serving Jesus!* However, Jesus’ service here *pointed to His MUCH GREATER SERVICE to everyone on His cross!*

ii. ⁸ Peter said to him, “You shall never wash my feet.” Jesus answered him, “If I do not wash you, you have no share 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, “The one who has bathed does not need to wash, except for his feet, but is completely clean. And you are clean, but not every one of you.” ¹¹ For he knew who was to betray him; that was why he said, “Not all of you are clean.” // Think about Peter’s dirty feet AND his dirty soul; Peter was **unwilling to wash his feet** and **unable to wash his soul**. So Jesus wanted Peter to see two things: (1) his own helplessness and (2) his desperate need for Jesus’ washing! Even for all people, *they are totally helpless to save themselves*, so they desperately need Jesus’ soul saving work! Also, Jesus made a reference to Judas being unclean – *in order to prompt Judas to see his sin and repent!*

3. **The Teaching:** ¹² When he had washed their feet and put on his outer garments and resumed his place, he said to them, “Do you understand 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, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. ¹⁵ For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you. ¹⁶ Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. ¹⁷ If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them...” // Sometimes as sinful people, we imagine our position in this life on a scale of 1 to 10. If we think we are a 5, *then jobs on a level of 1 to 4 seem too lowly for us*. With Jesus’

washing, *since He is the HIGHEST and yet He did the lowest*, He is calling us to ✦see what needs to be done and ✦do it – *no matter how lowly it might seem!* Lenski wrote: “Jesus does not drive with commands but draws with a promise” (929): “blessed are you if you do them...”

4. **The Explaining:** In this section, Judas has just left the upper room to follow through on betraying Jesus; then...
- a. ³¹ ... 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 glorify him at once. // In other words, with Judas leaving, *he was setting in motion the final phase of Jesus’ redeeming work* – His †arrest, †rials, †beatings, and †rucifixion!
 - b. ³³ Little children, yet a little while I am with you. You will seek me, and just as I said to the Jews, so now I also say to you, ‘Where I am going you cannot come.’ // As little children seek their parents, so Jesus’ disciples would seek Him, *yet they would not find Him.*
 - c. ³⁴ A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. ³⁵ By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” // With Jesus gone, *it would be important for them to stay together and show love for each other.* Even today, as we take sacrificial action for others, *we are giving them a glimpse of the love God has for us!*

Let Us Pray: Dear Lord Jesus, *our God in human flesh*, You loved Your disciples, You love us, and You even loved Judas – Your betrayer; help us to ever ✦trust You and ✦love others!

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