

John 13

John 13.1-4

V1 – This was Thursday, so these are the events before the death of Christ on the cross

- How did Jesus describe his coming death?** As a departure (See 2 Timothy 4:6-8)
- Where was Jesus going upon his departure?** To his Father in heaven
- Whom did Jesus love here in the world?** His own people, the disciples
- From any standard reference book or Internet site, find Leonardo da Vinci's painting *The Last Supper*

V2 – **What had Satan done concerning the Passover?** He had put a temptation into the heart of Judas

- How had Satan already gotten Judas to sin?** Stealing money from the treasury
- What temptation had Satan placed in the heart of Judas this time?** To betray Jesus
- Had Satan done this against Judas' will?** No, with his permission

V3 – **Did Jesus know who he really was?** Yes, he knew that he had come from God the Father and would go back to the Father

V4 – **What did Jesus do after the supper was over?** Took off his outer garments and put a towel around him

- Guy N. Woods: Hebrew word “chitooon” referred to an undergarment (he was not naked)
- This undergarment was on him at all times
- See 1 Peter 5:5 – Peter seems to be making a reference back to this girding of Christ with humility

John 13.5-11

V5 – **Why did their feet need washing?** Because people wore sandals back then

- The roads were not paved, but were dusty and dirty and grimy
- It was the custom for a host to wash the feet of the guests
- Why didn't the host wash their feet?** Because it was a rented room (no host)
- Why hadn't the apostles washed anyone's feet on this occasion?** Because nobody wanted to do this dirty job
- So who took up the job of washing the apostles' feet?** Jesus Christ, and dried them with a towel

V6 – We don't know which apostle Jesus started with, but he did several feet before he got to Peter

- What was Peter's reaction?** There was no way that Peter was going to let Jesus wash his feet
- Why not?** The Son of God should not be washing feet

V7 – **What was the reply that Jesus gave to Peter?** You will understand this later

V8 – **What was Peter's reply to that statement?** He still said that Jesus would never wash his feet

- Reply of Jesus?** You cannot be my disciple if you don't let me wash your feet

V9 – **What was the reply of Peter?** Wash me all over

- How did this statement fit into Peter's character?** Consistent – he was always taking things too

far

-He was too emotional and went to extremes

V 10 – There is more going on here than just the washing of feet

-**In what sense had Peter already been washed?** By baptism (John the Baptist)

-**Was there any need for Peter to be rebaptized?** No

-**How do we cleanse ourselves from sin after we have been baptized?** **Read 1 John 1:7-9**

-There is no need to rebaptize a person just because he has sinned again

V 11 – **Which disciple was this a reference to?** Judas, who was not clean

John 13.12-17

V 12 – **What question did Jesus ask them next?** Do you know what I have done here?

V 13 – **What titles have they given to Jesus?** Teacher and Lord

-In other words, they knew his place in the universe

V 15 – **Did he say that they should do what he did to them?** No, but to do “as” he had done

-**What then was the purpose of the washing of the feet?** To teach them humility and how to be of service to those in need

V 16 – **What other great lesson were they supposed to learn from this?** That Jesus was greater than they were

-If He washed their feet, then they should be humble enough to do the same

V 17 – **How would they be blessed?** By doing these things

-Most groups which practice feet washing today wash only one foot, and they wash their feet very carefully at home before coming to church

-For more information on foot washing, see: *Gospel Advocate Commentary on John*, Guy N. Woods, p. 288

John 13.18-20

V 18 – **What was Jesus saying here?** That one of the apostles would betray him

-Notice the quote from *Psalms 41:9* – some people will betray the very one who helped them the most

-Mark Twain said: “If you pick up a starving dog and make him prosperous, he will not bite you. This is the principal difference between a dog and a man”

V 19 – **Why had Jesus told them about the betrayal?** So that they would believe in him (after the fact)

V 20 – **What job did Jesus have for the disciples?** To be his ambassadors

-Just because one man would betray Christ did not mean that all the apostles were corrupt

John 13.21-26

V 21 – What really upset Jesus? Just thinking about one of the apostles betraying him

- From time to time in this life, we will have a close friend betray us
- It can be very discouraging and very upsetting

V 22 – What was the reaction of the apostles? They could not figure out whom he was talking about

V 23 – Which apostle was closest to Jesus? The Apostle John (he never used his name in this book)

V 24 – Which apostle spoke up at this time? Peter (naturally)

- What did Peter want to know? Which apostle was going to betray Jesus?

V 25 – Question of Peter? Is it I?

- What does that question indicate? Doubt in the mind of Peter and in minds of all the other innocent apostles

V 26 – How did Jesus indicate which one who would betray him? The one to whom he gave the piece of bread

- Which one was that? Judas Iscariot

John 13.27-30

V 27 – In which verse had Satan tempted Judas? *John 13:2* (the idea)

- Now Judas had given in to the temptation (Satan does this sometimes to us today)
- What did Jesus say to Judas at this time? Let's get it over with (do it quickly)

V 28 – What was the reaction of the apostles? They really didn't understand what was happening

V 29 – What did some of the other apostles think Jesus was talking about? Telling Judas to get some supplies or to give some money to the poor people

- That would say to some that the apostles did support the poor people from time to time

V 30 – What a powerful verse – “It was night”

- Meaning? In a spiritual sense and also a literal sense

John 13.31-35

V 31 – In what sense was Jesus in the process of being glorified? He was about to die on cross

- How would the Father in heaven be glorified? Through his son Jesus

V 33 – What is the meaning of “little children”? A term of endearment; much love for them

- What did Jesus predict? Shortly they would not be able to find him (he would be in the tomb for three days)

V 34 – **What new commandment did he give them?** To love one another

-**How had he loved them?** Sacrificed for them (washing of feet) and about to give his life for them

V 35 – **What would be the sign by which all people would be able to identify the disciples of Christ?** Their love for each other (not by crazy dress or strange speech)

-Consider the famous statement of Tertullian:

The heathen are wont to exclaim with wonder "See how these Christians love one another," for they [the heathen] hate one another; "and how they are ready to die for one another," for they [the heathen] are more ready to kill one another" (Apol. 39).

John 13.36-38

V 36 – **Who spoke up?** Peter (naturally)

-**What was his question?** He wanted to know where Jesus was going

-**Answer of Jesus?** Some place where you can't come now, but you will come later

V 37 – **What did Peter want to know?** Why couldn't he follow Jesus right then?

-**What boast did Peter make?** That he would lay down his life for Jesus

V 38 – **What prediction did Jesus make?** That the cock would not crow until he had denied Jesus three times

-Peter had great zeal, but not much substance (at this time)

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