

HOW TO LIVE BETWEEN HIS COMINGS:

It's All About Relationships - John 13-17

“WHEN WASHING FEET IS NOT JUST WASHING FEET”

John 13:12-17

Relating to One Another: Servanthood (John 13:1-17)

- Jesus' example of servanthood (13:1-5)
- Jesus' experience with Peter (13:6-11)
- Jesus' explanation of footwashing (13:12-17)

MAIN IDEA: The purpose of Jesus washing feet was not merely the washing of feet.

I. THE _____ OF HIS _____ (John 13:12-16)

A. *What the _____ was _____*

- ❖ Not merely because they had _____ feet
- ❖ Not to teach them to wash _____ feet

B. *What the _____ was _____*

- ❖ The _____: that they might learn to wash _____ feet
Is Jesus commanding mere literal footwashing only? Is He instituting footwashing as an ordination of the Church? Arguments against. . .
 - *Argument from _____*
 - *Jesus is referring more to the _____ meaning than to the _____ act (13:13).*
 - *Jesus taught on _____ one another at the supper as a rebuke to their _____ (easiest demonstration was footwashing—Luke 22:24-27).*
 - *Argument from _____*
It was an act of _____ in that _____ (cp. 1 Tim. 5:10; Gen. 18:4; 19:2; 24:32; 43:24; Judg. 19:21).
 - *Argument from _____*
 - *It is not mentioned in _____ or in the _____ as an _____ to observe.*
 - *It was not _____ by the Church from the _____ (first in 4th Cent. A.D.).*
- ❖ The _____: that they might _____ one another, meeting the _____ of one another, as Jesus had done (13:14-15; cp. Matt. 20:26-27)

II. THE _____ OF HIS _____ (John 13:13-16)

A. *What _____ their _____: _____ washed their feet (13:13-14)*

- ❖ The _____ of Jesus (13:13-14a)--_____ He is
- ❖ The _____ of Peter (cp. 13:6)—acknowledging His _____

B. *What _____ their _____: their _____ with the Master (13:15-16)*

- ❖ Following His example in _____ (John 13:16; Matt. 20:25-28; Phil. 2:5-8)
- ❖ Following His example in _____ (Matt. 10:24-25; John 15:20; 1 Pet. 2:21-24)
- ❖ Following His example in _____ (Luke 6:40; 1 John 2:6)

III. THE _____ OF HIS _____ (John 13:17)

A. *There is _____ in following the _____ of Christ in _____.*

B. *The blessing is in the _____, not simply in the _____ (neither in the _____ or _____) (cp. Luke 11:28; Jas. 1:22-25).*

- *You cannot truly serve or obey _____ without serving one _____.*
- *Serving one another is not _____ to washing feet, but expands to any act which meets other's needs.*
- *Serving others yields great _____ to the believer who practices it.*

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MAIN IDEA: The purpose of Jesus washing feet was not merely the washing of feet.

I. **THE PURPOSE OF HIS ACTION** (John 13:12-16)

A. *What the purpose was not*

- ❖ Not merely because they had *dirty* feet
- ❖ Not to teach them to wash *His* feet

B. *What the purpose was*

- ❖ The *immediate purpose*: that they might learn to wash *one another's* feet
Is Jesus commanding mere literal footwashing only? Is He instituting footwashing as an ordination of the Church? Arguments against. . . .
 - *Argument from context*
 - *Jesus is referring more to the spiritual meaning than to the literal act (13:13)*
 - *Jesus taught on serving one another at the supper as a rebuke to their selfishness (easiest demonstration was footwashing—Luke 22:24-27).*
 - *Argument from culture*
It was an act of hospitality in that culture (cp. 1 Tim. 5:10; Gen. 18:4; 19:2; 24:32; 43:24; Judg. 19:21).
 - *Argument from custom*
 - *It is not mentioned in Acts or in the epistles as an ordinance to observe.*
 - *It was not practiced by the Church from the beginning (first in 4th Cent. A.D.).*
- ❖ The *instructive principle*: that they might *serve* one another, meeting the *needs* of one another, as Jesus had done (13:14-15; cp. Matt. 20:26-27)

II. **THE POWER OF HIS EXAMPLE** (John 13:13-16)

A. *What caught their attention: who washed their feet (13:13-14)*

- ❖ The *admission* of Jesus (13:13-14a)—*who* He is
- ❖ The *amazement* of Peter (cp. 13:6)—acknowledging His *unworthiness*

B. *What compelled their obedience: their relationship with the Master (13:15-16)*

- ❖ Following His example in *servanthood* (John 13:16; Matt. 20:25-28; Phil. 2:5-8)
- ❖ Following His example in *suffering* (Matt. 10:24-25; John 15:20; 1 Pet. 2:21-24)
- ❖ Following His example in *sanctification* (Luke 6:40; 1 John 2:6)

III. **THE PROMISE OF HIS BLESSING** (John 13:17)

A. *There is blessing in following the example of Christ in servanthood.*

B. *The blessing is in the doing, not simply in the knowing (neither in the learning or hearing) (cp. Luke 11:28; Jas. 1:22-25).*

- *You cannot truly serve or obey Jesus without serving one another.*
- *Serving one another is not limited to washing feet, but expands to any act which meets other's needs.*
- *Serving others yields great blessing to the believer who practices it.*