



John 13:1-6, Lesson #38

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Touch My Heart; But Don't Touch My Feet!

My wife knows that there are three (3) things that I don't like (No...I can't stand!...NO, I WILL NOT TOLERATE) FOR HER TO DO (intentionally or unintentionally):

- 1. Touch the underside of my feet,***
- 2. Touch the underside of my feet, and***
- 3. Touch the underside of my feet!***

****This is a "touchy" subject with me! *Pun intended. She understands that there is one thing that is "off-base" and considered the "unforgiveable sin"—that is...rubbing the bottom of my feet with the nails of her feet. There is no forgiveness!***

I was born with a life-long ailment! I was born with an attitude of unforgiveness! In other words, I will forgive "most" any sin against me before I will forgive this sin of the knowledge of good and evil. She knows that it is "evil intentions" when she touches my feet **on purpose**. God will forgive her...I won't!

I count it worse than the time she poured ice-cold water out of a one-gallon container onto my body from the window above the bathtub in which I was stretched out after a hard-days work in construction. We had been married about 2 months. The 3rd month of marriage was questionable after this ungodly thing to do of your "supposedly mate and partner for life." When the water hit me, I gravitated to about 2 feet above the water level of the bathtub. I have vowed all my life to pay her back. That was 63 years ago and I keep reminding her that I will pay her back for this ungodly action before we meet our Lord! A terrible and frightening look comes on her face every time I remind her of "THE PAYBACK."

Today's lesson is on...Jesus' humble washing of the apostles feet and the lesson we are to learn from it!

John 13:1, "Now before the feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that His hour had come that He should depart from this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end."

- "Now before the feast of the Passover": This gives us a time reference. Jesus was about to share a meal with His disciples, and scholars disagree whether this meal was actually on the Passover, or if it was the Passover meal, but celebrated the day before.***

- ✓ **Some of our scholars (today and earlier in time) make something so major when it is not near as important to know that Jesus was willing to be a servant to man instead of man serving Him.**

It is like preachers emphasizing from the pulpit serving in the soup line in lieu of Jesus' dying for mankind, the importance of the blood covenant (shedding of Jesus' blood for the forgiveness of sin), and the absolute necessity for repentance.

- **Indeed, His hour had come.** Remember...Jesus' public ministry was over (He was now with His chosen disciples). In approximately 24 hours, Jesus would hang on the cross.
- **This was the beginning of the end, and Jesus used these last precious hours to serve and prepare His disciples.**
 - ✓ *"When one is leaving for a distant country (in this case, back to His Father), and has transacted all necessary business with the outside world, he will probably want to spend the few remaining hours in the sweet intimacy of the family circle." (Morrison)*
- **There is no doubt...Jesus had loved His disciples. He led them, taught them, cared for them, and protected them.**
- **The idea behind the phrase "to the end" is "to the fullest extent, to the uttermost."**

John 13:2-6, "And supper being ended, the devil having already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray Him, Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come from God and was going to God, Rose from supper and laid aside His garments, took a towel and girded Himself. After that, He poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded. Then He came to Simon Peter. And Peter said to Him, "Lord, are You washing my feet?" Jesus answered and said to him, "What I am doing you do not understand now, but you will know after this."

- **Satan looked for a man to betray Jesus and had probably cultivated Judas for a long time. Now the choice was made. Judas was his man.**
You can ask why Judas would do such an act, especially after walking, talking, and experiencing Jesus' miracles.
You can ask why a man like Judas would give into Satan's temptations...why a person does not follow Jesus.



Note: How many times through Scriptures and in our lives today that we must make a choice for good or bad? I think this story of Judas Iscariot points out the “tempting from the tempter” at its fullest power.

- Jesus was about to lower Himself, literally stooping in humble service to His disciples.
 - ✓ As He served in this humble way, He did not do it from weakness.
 - ✓ He did it from a position of all authority, because the Father had given all things into His hands.
- “And that He had come from God and was going to God”:
 - ✓ Jesus didn’t only know His authority; He also knew His relationship with God.
 - ✓ He knew His identity, as one who had come from God, and as one who was going to God.

“Rose from supper and laid aside His garments.”

- With short, vivid statements John described the remarkable thing Jesus did on that unforgettable night.
- We have the sense that when John wrote this many years after the fact, he could still remember every detail.
 - ✓ “John’s account reads like that of an eyewitness who had watched with wonder and suspense — short staccato sentences.” (Trench)
 - ✓ Hopefully, we would be in awe of this “attitude of servitude” as we observed Jesus, the Healer, stooping to serve in lieu of being served.

LOVE IN ACTION! LOVE AT IT’S FOREMOST HEIGHT AND DEPTH!

As a reminder and food for thought:

When I have surrendered my soul and spirit to the Lord as I have passed away and my body handed over to the undertaker, please tell him to not touch the underside of my feet. I think he would not be pleased when I come off the table as he prepares my body for burial.

Ministry Studies Used:

- <https://enduringword.com/bible>-The Enduring Word Bible Commentary by David Guzik
- <https://answeredfaith.comJesus' Love and Humility in John 13: A Deep Dive>
- <https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/eng/dsb, William Barclay>