

LOVED THEM TO THE END

John 13:1-30

Tags

The Gospel of John, Jesus, John, Passover, feast, his hour, depart out of this world, Father, loved his own, the end, supper, devil, heart, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, betray, God, rose, outer garments, towel, waist, water, basin, wash feet, disciples, Simon Peter, Lord, feet, hands, head, bathed, wash, completely clean, teacher, example, truly truly, servant, master, messenger, blessed, chosen, scripture, fulfilled, bread, heel, I am, receives, send, sent, troubled in his spirit, table, reclining, morsel, bread, dipped, satan, moneybag, poor, night

Introduction

The Book of signs has come to a close and, "Though he had done so many signs before them, they still did not believe in him." (John 12:37 ESV) On the eve of his crucifixion, knowing that the hour for departure had come, Jesus washes the feet of the disciples. His actions are both unexpected and uncomfortable. Jesus begins explaining how he will cleanse them through the cross even though he knows they will not understand it yet. He calls the disciples to follow his example and warns that someone will betray him. Despite knowing who would betray him from the beginning, he washed the feet of Judas and offered grace again. Judas will not receive the grace, and the darkness of night has come.

God so loved the world that he sent Jesus. Jesus has LOVED his own and will to the very end. There is nothing like the love of Jesus; these final moments with his disciples will show that love in unimaginable ways. A new command is on the way. We are called to love and serve others. Living this way will bless us (v. 17). Are you one of Jesus' own? If so, take comfort in the truth that he will never stop loving you.

Outline

Nobody will love you like Jesus (v. 1).

Jesus is the humble Servant King who makes us clean (vv. 3–5).

Walking in a filthy world means bringing the dirty feet of our hearts to the basin daily because we trust the loving hand of Jesus (v. 10).

Following Jesus means serving others (v. 15).

Serving will be a blessing for you (v. 17).

Jesus offers grace to traitors (v. 26).

Jesus was not a victim. Even what satan and Judas did served his mission (v. 27).

Application

Have you been made clean by Jesus?

What sin do you need to bring to the basin?

Are you serving others?

Questions

1. Read Philippians 2:1-11. How does this passage illustrate what Jesus did on the eve of his crucifixion?
2. How does Jesus make us clean from sin? If we are cleansed of our sin, why should we ask God for forgiveness? (1 John 1:8-10)
3. Do you find serving others difficult? Why or why not?
4. How is grace extended to Judas in the passage?
5. Share a time when you were blessed by serving someone else.