April 6, 2025 continued

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John 13

1Now before the feast of the passover, when Jesus knew that his hour was come that he should depart out of this world unto the Father, having loved his own which were in the world, he loved them unto the end.

This is what is referred to as "the last supper". It was also the Passover meal that Jesus was sharing with His friends and disciples, the last time before His crucifixion.

Several significant things to consider about the last supper. First the last supper or what in the Christian community calls "Communion", according to scripture does not have a defined number or frequency of sharing a Communion meal. Jesus did however stipulate when He was having His final meal according to 1 Corinthians 11.

1 Corinthians 11:26 For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come.

Various christian religions set different frequencies for having Communion. As with anything of Biblical Spiritual importance it is the heart condition that matters. One big difference in the way Passover is celebrated, and the Last Supper or Communion is celebrated is the frequency.

Passover is once per year fulfilling Old Testament law.

Communion can be as often as you decide to celebrate it.

1 Corinthians 11:26 For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come.

In the new covenant we can celebrate the Last Supper/Communion as often as we like. It is similar to the Sabbath day, even though we should have one day of the week for physical rest as in the old covenant, the Sabbath was once a week.

As Believers we can celebrate Sabbath "resting in Christ" every day of the week. Christ finished the work and sat down beside the Father; the work of Salvation fully completed.

Hebrews 4: 8 For if Jesus had given them rest, then would he not afterward have spoken of another day. 9 There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God. 10 For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from his. 11 Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief.

As vs 1 says, Jesus knew that He was going to be leaving the earth and from His fully human form to return to His Father in

Heaven in His Resurrected form. It was important to the disciples and us today to clearly understand Jesus' love for those that love Him. He loves all of mankind but between Believers and Jesus is Agape Love, a selfless, self-sacrificing love that will endure for eternity.

2And supper being ended, the devil having now put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's *son*, to betray him;

Ephesians 6:12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

Satan hates you if you love Jesus, it is that simple. There is a battle that we all experience almost on a daily basis of a struggle between our Spirit and the "old man", the fleshly desires of our sin nature. Jesus died for all of our sins and as believers we are saved. But what about Satan attacking us? There seems to be a conduit between our old flesh our old man who needs to die to sin and Satan. The more we walk in Christ the less that connection with our sin nature has its way in our lives. Don't think for a minute that Satan does not want all of us to fall into sin. It is Satan's way of hurting God. When we in sin as Believers give into sin we hurt God's heart.

Ephesians 6:12 is not written to non-believers, it is written to Believers. We wrestle not against flesh and blood; in other words our struggle is not against other men or women. It may seem like our struggle is against mankind due to Satan using non-believing humans to carry out his will.

Our struggle is:

"against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

<u>3</u>Jesus knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he was come from God, and went to God;

Matthew 28:18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

Jesus tried in so many ways to show His Disciples that He came as a suffering servant to mankind. In an extraordinary manner Jesus knelt before each of his Disciples and washed their feet. The foot in this culture and even today is considered the filthiest part of the body as it comes into contact with the earth which was cursed by God.

- 4He riseth from supper, and laid aside his garments; and took a towel, and girded himself.
- <u>5</u>After that he poureth water into a bason, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe *them* with the towel wherewith he was girded. <u>6</u>Then cometh he to Simon

Peter: and Peter saith unto him, Lord, dost thou wash my feet? 7Jesus answered and said unto him, What I do thou knowest not now; but thou shalt know hereafter.

This cleansing of the disciple's feet had a much deeper level of understanding that they physical washing of feet. The deeper meaning was the cleansing of a man's soul by the Creator of the Universe, the Son of God who would wash away the sins of the world.

<u>8</u>Peter saith unto him, Thou shalt never wash my feet. Jesus answered him, If I wash thee not, thou hast no part with me.

Any man or woman that does not agree to let Jesus Blood wash away their sin, has no part in Christ Jesus and Salvation. Peter did not understand the implication of what Jesus said but Peter took Jesus at His word.

<u>9</u>Simon Peter saith unto him, Lord, not my feet only, but also *my* hands and *my* head. <u>10</u>Jesus saith to him, He that is washed needeth not save to wash *his* feet, but is clean every whit: and ye are clean, but not all.

We know from the next verse that Jesus was talking to Peter about Judas Iscariot.

11 For he knew who should betray him; therefore said he, Ye are not all clean.

12So after he had washed their feet, and had taken his garments, and was set down again, he said unto them, Know ye what I have done to you? 13Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am. 14If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet. 15For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you. 16Verily, verily, I say unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him. 17If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them.

The real point Jesus is making is not that we need to wash each other's feet but that we should be servants to all including those who are stationed below us in business or whatever. Position in life does not decide who is the servant and who is the master. In God's economy, we are to all be servants.

(<u>Psalm 41:1-13</u>; <u>Matthew 26:17-25</u>; <u>Mark 14:12-21</u>; <u>Luke</u> 22:7-13)

18 speak not of you all: I know whom I have chosen: but that the scripture may be fulfilled, He that eateth bread with me hath lifted up his heel against me. 19 Now I tell you before it come, that, when it is come to pass, ye may believe that I am he. 20 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that receiveth whomsoever I send receiveth me; and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me

Jesus was prophesying about the betrayer that is among them. He did this so people can plainly see that Jesus foretold that. Jesus then pivots to the other side of the Sacred ledger, the side of the ledger or Book of Life that has the Believers names. Jesus declares that He is sending out Apostles and that whoever receives them receives them, receives Him. By righteous extension then who ever receives Him also receives the One that sent Him, His Father.

The disciples were not fully picking up on what the Lord was saying, and their lack of understanding troubled Him in the Spirit.

21When Jesus had thus said, he was troubled in spirit, and testified, and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, that one of you shall betray me.

22Then the disciples looked one on another, doubting of whom he spake.

After plain talk the disciples finally got what Jesus was trying to get acrost to them. He was going to be betrayed by one of the disciples, one of the 12.

23Now there was leaning on Jesus' bosom one of his disciples, whom Jesus loved.

Anytime you see this phrase it is usually John speaking about himself. He hardly ever uses his own name.

24Simon Peter therefore beckoned to him, that he should ask who it should be of whom he spake.

So, Simon Peter beckons to John to ask the Lord who the traitor was going to be.

<u>25</u>He then lying on Jesus' breast saith unto him, Lord, who is it? <u>26</u>Jesus answered, He it is, to whom I shall give a sop, when I have dipped it. And when he had dipped the sop, he gave it to Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon. <u>27</u>And after the sop Satan entered into him. Then said Jesus unto him, That thou doest, do quickly.

John asks Jesus who is going to betray Him. Jesus does not say a name but shows the traitor by his actions. The tell, as they say is that whoever Jesus hands some bread to and he dips it in the liquid is the perpetrator. The event then happens right in front of the disciples' eyes.

Jesus then with full authority tells Judas to do what he plans on doing and do it quickly. One can only imagine what went on in Judas's mind but one thing we know is that when Judas's mind conceived of the sin, and then his flesh committed to it by Satan entering into him, he was fixed and moved to carry out the deed.

28 Now no man at the table knew for what intent he spake this unto him.

Jesus had just told John and Peter that there was a betrayer among them. He then identified him through the betrayers' actions. Even though Peter and John knew that Judas was going to betray Jesus they did not know how. None of them did.

29 For some of them thought, because Judas had the bag, that Jesus had said unto him, Buy those things that we have need of against the feast; or, that he should give something to the poor.

Speculation on the part of the disciples. John was in the same situation but learned later as to all that would take place and now tells us the facts. Judas would betray Jesus for money.

<u>30</u>He then having received the sop went immediately out: and it was night.

We have a simple statement by John, that the daylight was now gone, and it was now dark out. Remember this is written likely between 85 and 90 AD. Jesus was Crucified when He was 32, so this event was some 53 after Jesus Crucifixion before John wrote this Gospel. John in writing this not only had the help of the Holy Spirit, but he has hindsight; things he learned after the fact. That explains a lot.

John for some reason makes this definitive statement that it was dark outside. Consider this, Judas left the light Jesus and went

into the darkness where Satan was dwelling, exactly as Jesus had warned His disciples not long before this incident.

John 11:10 But if a man walk in the night, he stumbleth, because there is no light in him.

A New Command I Give You

(Romans 12:9-13; 1 John 3:11-24)

31 Therefore, when he was gone out, Jesus said, Now is the Son of man glorified, and God is glorified in him. 32 If God be glorified in him, God shall also glorify him in himself, and shall straightway glorify him.

Jesus is speaking in a future tense. The Glory that would be His as He returned to the Throne of God, fully completing His mission given by the Father to the Son.

33Little children, yet a little while I am with you. Ye shall seek me: and as I said unto the Jews, Whither I go, ye cannot come; so now I say to you.

The Jews when they sought Jesus were told that He was going somewhere that they could not go. This is a statement meant for one of two people. Unbelievers and Believers who have not died yet. For unbelievers it is an eternal condition unless they come to Christ before death. For the Believer it is a temporary condition until Rapture or death find the Believer.

34A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one

another. <u>35By</u> this shall all *men* know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.

This "love" spoken of by Christ is the same love that He and His Father share. It is called Agape love, a sacrificial love that puts the other person first. It is a sign of Christians that they love one another. It is to be evidence of being a Believer.

36Simon Peter said unto him, Lord, whither goest thou? Jesus answered him, Whither I go, thou canst not follow me now; but thou shalt follow me afterwards.

"Follow later" is of course at Peter's death that he would follow Christ to heaven.

<u>37</u>Peter said unto him, Lord, why cannot I follow thee now? I will lay down my life for thy sake. <u>38</u>Jesus answered him, Wilt thou lay down thy life for my sake? Verily, verily, I say unto thee, The cock shall not crow, till thou hast denied me thrice.

Perhaps the worst words Peter ever heard. First because there is no way in his mind that he would ever deny Christ his Lord and Savior. There are many Christians that say the same thing, but when the trials come will they hold to Christ or flee? Time would tell for Peter and time will tell for us. Be strong in the Lord, stand firm in your love for Him, trials will come, don't surrender EVER!

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