

## JOHN 13 BIBLE STUDY

Bible study of John chapter 13

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**JOHN 13:1-2 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. 2 And supper being ended, the devil having already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray Him,**

**How long "before" (John 13:1) the Feast of the Passover was this?**

This was the night before the [Passover](#) started.

**How had Jesus known that "His hour had come" (John 13:1)?**

It had been confirmed by the gentiles asking for Jesus just days prior (see [The Hour Has Come](#)).

**What is meant by the devil having already put the betrayal of Jesus into Judas Iscariot's heart?**

Judas already had agreed to betray Jesus: " (Matthew 26:14-16)

**What supper had just "ended" (John 13:2)?**

The "L\_\_\_\_\_ Supper" described in Luke 22:14-20. Jesus was telling them to take the wine and the bread "**in remembrance**" of the sacrifice He was about to make on the cross "once for all".

**Why does Jesus lay "aside His garments, took a towel and" gird "Himself" (John 13:4)?**

He is dressing Himself down as a s\_\_\_\_\_.

**Why do feet need to be washed in those days? Have you ever participated in a foot washing service?**

**Jesus washes the disciples' feet at what moment?**

Jesus had told them that one of them would betray Him: "**But behold, the hand of My betrayer is with Me on the table. And truly the Son of Man goes as it has been determined, but woe to that man by whom He is betrayed!**" (Luke 22:21-22) They begin trying to guess the perpetrator among themselves, and their discussion soon degenerates into an argument over who is the best among them: "**Then they began to question among themselves, which of them it was who would do this thing. Now there was also a dispute among them, as to which of them should be considered the greatest.**" (Luke 22:23-24) It is while they argue on in pride that Jesus dresses down like a slave and washes the disciples' feet.

**What tendency does Peter exhibit in John 13:6-9?**

He tends to t\_\_\_\_\_ before he t\_\_\_\_\_.

**What doesn't he exhibit in John 13:6-9?**

An ego. One would expect him to start to defend his position. Yet on one word from Jesus, he abandons it and instead swings to the other extreme.

**What is meant by, "He who is bathed needs only to wash his feet, but is completely clean" (John 13:10)?**

When a person is saved by Jesus, they are "**completely clean**" of sins, but they don't completely stop sinning, even though they sin less and less. So, just as road dirt continues to accumulate on cleaned feet and repeatedly needs to be washed, so should our daily sins constantly be confessed to Jesus, not to another human being, and repented.

**Who is Jesus talking about in John 13:11 and what is He saying?**

Is he saying that Judas Iscariot is not saved?

**What's disappointing about what is described in John 13:4-12?**

It records one of the twelve disciples protesting, but none of them volunteering to wash the others' feet in Jesus' place.

**What is Jesus' message above?**

Be humble and have no ego before each other either.

**How did Jesus teach and lead?**

By example, which should be heeded by more Christian leaders today.

**What is the difference between "Teacher" and "Lord" (John 13:13)?**

Teacher is someone to be listened to and observed. Lord is someone to be obeyed unconditionally.

**To you, is Jesus both or one?**

**What does Jesus mean by, "He who eats bread with Me has lifted up his heel against Me" (John 13:18)?**

He is telling them that someone close to Him will strike out at Him, and that this will fulfill another prophecy in the "**Scripture**": "**Even my own familiar friend in whom I trusted, who ate my bread, has lifted up his heel against me.**"(Psalm 41:9)

**Is He saying this so that they can try to stop the striker?**

No, He is revealing this "**before it comes**" so that "**when it does come to pass**" (John 13:19), they will know that He wasn't caught off guard, but is "**He**"(John 13:19), the Messiah who knew all things in advance.

**What is Jesus doing in John 13:20?**

He is commissioning them as His ambassadors.

**What does the disciples being "perplexed" when Jesus said, "One of you will betray me" (John 13:21) tell about Judas Iscariot?**

The disciples had spent 3 years, day and night, with Judas but couldn't recognize him as the betrayer even after Jesus said, "One of you will betray me." His charade had been good enough to fool everyone except Jesus.

**Are there betrayers of Christ in churches today?**

Many, and some of their charade is as good as Judas'. The only person we can and should trust completely is Jesus, whose Word must be used to qualify the words and the actions of everyone, including those in leadership.

**Who is "one of His disciples, whom Jesus loved" (John 13:23)?**

J\_\_\_\_\_, who wrote this Gospel.

**What was he doing "leaning on Jesus' bosom" (John 13:23) and "leaning back on Jesus' breast" (John 13:25)?**

Contrary to the depiction by a famous Medieval artist, the Last Supper wasn't eaten by thirteen men sitting on one side of a long dining table while facing an audience. For communal meals like this one, everyone sat on the floor, around the food, leaning on their left elbow with their legs stretched out behind them, and ate with their right hand. This meant that each person's head was just in front of the torso - "**bosom**" or "**breast**" - of the person to their left. Jesus was to the left of John. Peter, who sat far away, "**motioned**" John to ask Jesus, "**who it was of whom He spoke**" (John 13:24), so John leaned back to ask.

**Did the other disciples hear John's question and Jesus' answer to him?**

Most likely not, since "**some thought, because Judas had the money box,**

that Jesus had said to him, 'Buy those things we need for the feast,' or that he should give something to the poor." (John 13:29)

### To whom did Jesus say, "What you do, do quickly" (John 13:27)?

Since Satan had "entered" (John 13:27) Judas, Judas was under Satan's possession, so Jesus was speaking to Satan as well as to Judas.

### What does this mean?

Jesus wasn't killed by Satan but used Satan's attack and Judas' betrayal to bring about His sacrifice on the cross. Jesus was in full control of everyone involved in His crucifixion, down to the timing of their involvement.

### When did Judas begin to betray Jesus?

The first time he stole from "the money box" (John 12:6).

**JOHN 13:31-33** <sup>31</sup> So, when he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man is glorified, and God is glorified in Him. <sup>32</sup> If God is glorified in Him, God will also glorify Him in Himself, and glorify Him immediately.<sup>33</sup> Little children, I shall be with you a little while longer. You will seek Me; and as I said to the Jews, 'Where I am going, you cannot come,' so now I say to you.

### Why does He say "Now" the "Son of Man is glorified, and God is glorified in Him" (John 13:31)?

Since those who will arrest Him had been sent for, the trap had been sprung.

### How much longer is "a little while longer" in John 13:33?

Jesus would be on the cross within twelve hours.

**JOHN 13:34-38** <sup>34</sup> A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one

another.”<sup>36</sup> Simon Peter said to Him, “Lord, where are You going?” Jesus answered him, “Where I am going you cannot follow Me now, but you shall follow Me afterward.”<sup>37</sup> Peter said to Him, “Lord, why can I not follow You now? I will lay down my life for Your sake.”<sup>38</sup> Jesus answered him, “Will you lay down your life for My sake? Most assuredly, I say to you, the rooster shall not crow till you have denied Me three times.

**How will people recognize Jesus' disciples?**

By their "love for one another" (John 13:35).

**What is Peter saying by, "I will lay down my life for Your sake" (John 13:37)?**

That he is willing to die for Jesus.

**Is it easier to die or to live for Jesus?**

For those who will go to heaven upon death, dying actually may seem easier than continuing to live in this sinful world. But until the One who laid down His life for us calls us to heaven, we are to live for Him.