

"If I Do Not Wash You, You Have No Part With Me."

Introduction:

- A. John 13:3-11 - Many levels of instruction in the Lord's washing of the disciples
 - 1. Humility and service
 - 2. Fulfilling prophecy and foreshadowing the immediate future
 - 3. Teaching the principles of salvation and fellowship
- B. We will consider the principles of salvation and fellowship in this lesson
 - 1. Jesus must do the washing
 - 2. One must be washed to be in fellowship with Jesus
 - 3. One who has been entirely cleansed does not need to be re-washed
- C. Jesus washes the disciples' feet - John 13:3-5

I. PETER'S CONFUSION OVER CLEANSING

- A. John 13:6-9 - Peter is amazed that Jesus wants to wash his feet and he flatly refuses to allow Him to do it.
 - 1. Poor, impulsive Peter; he has his own ideas of what is right and is so sure of them that he doesn't hesitate to tell the Lord He is mistaken
 - 2. Wonder how often this spirit is at the root of various digressions?
- B. Jesus response is that Peter is not equipped with enough information or revelation to grasp the fullness of what is happening
 - 1. Poor, impatient Peter; he is not content with the answer he is given; he must know it now, because he wants to act now
 - 2. Wonder how often this spirit is at the root of individual errors and personal discouragement?
- C. Peter answers with stubbornness - "You shall never wash my feet!"
 - 1. Poor, inflexible Peter; he has his mind made up and does not want to be confused by the facts
 - 2. Wonder how often this spirit is at the root of persons purposefully abandoning sound doctrine?
- D. The Lord replies that Peter's plan will keep him out of fellowship with Jesus
 - 1. Peter insists that the Lord do more for him than He said He would do
 - 2. Poor, inconsiderate Peter; in his rush to get what he wants or thinks he needs, he expects and demands more of the Lord than He promised
 - 3. Wonder how often this spirit is at the root of some comfortable doctrine that abdicates personal responsibility and duty, believing God will take care of him in spite of himself?

II. CHRIST'S CLARIFICATION OF CLEANSING

- A. John 13:8 - "If I do not wash you..."
 - 1. Jesus is the one who cleanses; no one else has the authority
 - a. John 14:6; Matt. 16:18; 1Peter 1:18-19
 - 2. We are the ones who need to be washed
 - a. Rom. 5:6-8; Eph. 2:4-6
- B. John 13:8 - "...you have no part with Me."
 - 1. Mark 16:16; John 3:5

- C. John 13:10 - "He who is bathed needs only to wash his feet, but is completely clean; and you are clean, but not all of you"
1. Jesus is telling Peter that when a man has washed his entire person, low, and he gets his feet dirty by walking through the streets, all he needs at that point is to wash, niptw, just the feet.
 2. When we obeyed the Gospel, Jesus washed us from our sins - Rev. 1:5
 3. However, as we walk through life, we tend to stumble into sin and we need cleansing. Not re-baptism, but the cleansing of 1John 1:6 - 2:2
 4. Jesus is teaching us that we do not need to get re-baptized every time we sin, but we do need to come to Him for forgiveness and restoration of fellowship.
 5. The heart we need - Psalm 32:5

III. A FINISHED CLEANSING

- A. John 13:10 - "He who is bathed needs only to wash his feet"
1. This implies that those who are in Christ need nothing else to make their salvation complete as the plan of salvation is completely effective
- B. We are secure in Him. How do we know? We have His Word on it:
1. His Promises - John 3:16, 5:24
 2. His Power - 1Peter 1:5
 3. His Prayers - Heb. 7:25; John 17:24
 4. His Person - 1Cor. 12:13; Gal. 3:27

VI. A FULL CLEANSING

- A. John 13:10 - "And you are clean." Who else has the authority and power to say that to a man and make it stick?
1. Col. 2:13; 1John 2:12; Psalm 103:12; Isa. 38:17, 43:25
 2. Jer. 50:20; Micah 7:19; 1John 1:7