

John 12:44-13:11

John 12

Verses 44-45

As His death is near, Jesus repeats a truth that He has stated through the gospel according to John that He has been sent from the Father. The Father has set His seal upon Him (John 6:27) as He is executing the Father (John 1:18) and making the invisible God visible (John 14:9). He who rejects Christ, rejects the Father and is not a child of God.

Verse 46

Jesus is the Light of the world (John 1:4-9, John 3:19-21, John 8:12) and those who believe in Him are rescued from the kingdom of darkness unto the kingdom of Light and are children of Light (1 Thess 5:5).

Verses 47-50

Those who reject the words of Jesus, reject the Father because Jesus did not speak on His own initiative, but from the Father who sent Him. The Father had given Him a commandment of what to say and speak as Jesus was executing and explaining the Father. That is why a rejection of the Son is a rejection of the Father and the rejection of Christ will bring about judgment and wrath on the Last Day. Conversely, those who believe in Christ have the Father and the words of God are eternal life. 1 John 5:12: *He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life.*

John 13

Verse 1

This chapter begins the account of the last supper with Jesus and His disciples. He is now just hours away from Him completing the work He was sent by the Father to complete and then He would be departing from this world and returning to the Father as the Son of Man. His death will take place at the Passover as He is the true Passover Lamb (1 Corinthians 5:7).

He will soon be departing out of the world, but He loved His own who were in the world to the end. This salvific love does not extend to everyone, but those who He loved salvifically and are His. All that He speaks to those who the Father had given Him. This speaks to particular redemption or limited atonement as those who were His, He loved to the end, speaking about His death on the cross. His love was displayed for His sheep, by laying His life down for them on the cross. If Christ would have died and atoned for everyone, everyone would be in Heaven. He loved His elect to the end by dying for them to redeem them and atone for them.

- **John 6:37-40** All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will certainly not cast out. ³⁸ For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. ³⁹ This is the will of Him who sent Me, that of all that He has given Me I lose nothing, but raise it up on the last day. ⁴⁰ For this is the will of My Father, that everyone who beholds the Son and believes in Him will have eternal life, and I Myself will raise him up on the last day."
- **John 10:27-30** My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; ²⁸ and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand. ²⁹ [a]My Father, who has given *them* to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch *them* out of the Father's hand. ³⁰ I and the Father are [e]one."
- **John 17:1-3** Jesus spoke these things; and lifting up His eyes to heaven, He said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify Your Son, that the Son may glorify You, ² even as You gave Him authority over all flesh, that to [a]all whom You have given Him, He may give eternal life.
- **John 17: 22-24** The glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, just as We are one; ²³ I in them and You in Me, that they may be perfected [a]in unity, so that the world may [b]know that You sent Me, and loved them, even as You have loved Me. ²⁴ Father, I desire that they also, whom You have given Me, be with Me where I am, so that they may see My glory which You have given Me, for You loved Me before the foundation of the world.

Verse 2 On this evening, Judas would betray Jesus so that Scripture would be fulfilled. Judas and the devil had the same agenda and desire, the death of Christ. Judas had already struck the deal to betray and was waiting for the right time to betray Him (**Matt 26:14-16**).

- **Psalm 41:9** Even my close friend in whom I trusted, Who ate my bread, Has lifted up his heel against me.
- **John 17:12** While I was with them, I was keeping them in Your name which You have given Me; and I guarded them and not one of them perished but the **l**son of perdition, so that the Scripture would be fulfilled.

Verses 3-9

Jesus knows the cross is nearing and soon He will return the Father. His life can be divided into two categories: **humiliation and exaltation**. The humiliation is in reference to His incarnation as the Sovereign God humbled Himself and took on flesh. His exaltation is in reference to His burial, glorification, and ascension to reign forever.

Jesus laid aside His garments to begin to wash the feet of the disciples. The washing of someone's feet was the role of a servant or a slave. Jesus the Sovereign God now performs the tasks of a servant. John the Baptist said that he was not worthy to untie Christ's sandal and he was right in that statement. However, Jesus is washing their feet in this act of humility.

The laying aside of the garments is symbolic of Him laying aside the glory of Heaven and taking upon Himself the role of a servant.

- **Phil 2:5-11** Have this attitude **l**in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be **l**grasped, ⁷ but **l**emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, *and* being made in the likeness of men. ⁸ Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death **l**on a cross.
- We also see a shadow in the Old Testament involving the high priest and the day of Atonement. Once a year the high priest and only the high priest would enter the holy of holies to sprinkle the blood of the goat and make atonement for the sins of the people. The garment of the high priest was decorative and made for glory which he would wear daily except on the day of atonement. He would lay aside the garments of glory and wear the linen tunic and undergarments as he was to perform the work of atonement. When his task had been completed, he would put back on his garments of glory. This is found in **Leviticus 16**. This points to Christ who took off the garments of glory when He left heaven and took on the form of a servant to make atonement for the sins of the people as He is the true High Priest. After His work was done, He was raised in glorified body, and He ascended to glory.
- **Mark 10:45** For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

The washing of feet was for cleansing. Here under the shadow of the cross as His hour is at hand, Jesus is foreshadowing His death which will be what is required to cleanse those who are His.

- **Isaiah 1:18** "Come now, and let us reason together," Says the Lord, "Though your sins are as scarlet, They will be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They will be like wool.
- **Hebrews 10:19-22** Therefore, brethren, since we have confidence to enter the holy place by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by a new and living way which He inaugurated for us through the veil, that is, His flesh, ²¹ and since *we have* a great priest over the house of God, ²² let us draw near with a **l**sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled *clean* from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

Jesus tells Peter that that unless he is washed by Christ, he has not part of Christ. If we are not washed in the blood of Christ we have no part of Him and are not cleansed from our sins.

Verse 10-11

After we are saved and cleansed with a truly clean. We can not lose salvation and we are covered by the righteousness of Christ. However, we still as we walk in this world (feet would get dirty by walking) and we still need forgiveness and a continually cleansing of the sins that impact our fellowship and walk with God as we grow in sanctification. He then gives the alarming statement to those who are gathered in the upper room that not everyone in the room was clean as someone there was to betray Him. He was referring to Judas.

The Sovereign God left His glory in Heaven and humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant. He humbled Himself unto death even death on a cross. It would be this death by this suffering servant that would cleanse all that were His. After He has completed His work, He put back on His garments of glory and returned to the Father to rule and reign forever. What can wash away our sins and cleanse us? Nothing, nothing, nothing but the blood of Jesus.

