

**“Who is Jesus?”: Servant Lord
John 13:1-20**

Introduction:

- New section through chp. 17 focusing on ministry to the disciples

The Basis for His Servant Work (v.1)

- A) The Hour had Come
 - a. The Cross
 - b. The Tomb
 - c. The Resurrection
 - d. The Ascension

- B) The Love for His Own
 - a. His Own (ref. John 12:44-50)
 - i. Drawn by God (John 6:44)
 - ii. Given by God (John 10:29)
 - iii. Born again by the Spirit of God (John 3:7-8) - redemption
 - iv. Adopted by God (John 1:12)
 - 1. They believe in who He is
 - 2. They behold His wondrous works
 - 3. They forsake darkness and walk in the light (John 12:35-36)
 - b. In the world
 - i. Enemy Territory (2 Cor. 4:4)
 - ii. Hostile to Christ (Eph.2:1-3)
 - iii. Every Provision (Romans 5:8)
 - c. To the end
 - i. **John 6:35-40**, “**35** Jesus said to them, “*I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst. 36 But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. 37 All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never 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 And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. 40 For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.”

- ii. **John 10:27-30**, “**27** My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. **28** I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. **29** 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 one.”

The Environment for His Servant Work (vv.2-3)

- A) The Supper
 - a. Leading to Passover
 - b. Deliverance from God's wrath
 - c. By provided sacrificial lamb

- B) The Company
 - a. Disciples (ref. John 6:66-71)
 - b. Satan

- C) His Authority
 - a. In light of the contrast of His own and His enemies
 - b. Place and Person

- D) His Future

The Picture of His Servant Work (vv.4-11)

- A) Humility (**vv.4-5**)
 - a. Clothing of a Slave (**Phil.2:6-7**, “**6** who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, **7** but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.”)

- b. Feet
 - i. Peers did not wash one another's feet
 - ii. Work of slaves and women, children and pupils (PNTC)

B) Cleansing (**vv.6-11**)

- a. Human nature (pride / self-righteousness)
- b. Sufficiency (atonement)
 - i. Legalism
 - ii. Exclusivism
 - 1. Sufficiency
 - 2. Simplicity
 - iii. Hebrews – the Jewish believers had difficulty believing Christ's sacrifice was enough (atonement is necessary to understand)
- c. Washing all...Cleansing some

The Purpose of His Servant Work (vv.12-20)

A) For Understanding (**vv.12-14**)

- a. His Authority
- b. His Humility
- c. His Example (*hypodeigma* – example and pattern)

B) For an Example (**vv.15-16**)

- a. Does not mean they will cleanse as Christ does
- b. Does mean that acts of service provides a context to understand Christ's cleansing
- c. Out of His authority
- d. For the whole gospel (not merely servant evangelism – keep all of the context in mind) – THE CROSS IS NO MERE EXAMPLE OF BEING A SERVANT

C) For Pleasure in Service (**v.17**)

- a. Laypeople
- b. Leaders (first of all, me!)

D) For Belief (**vv.18-20**)

- a. Beginning with the Choice of Christ
 - i. Extensive / Effectual
 - ii. **John 6:70-71**, "**70** Jesus answered them, "*Did I not choose you, the Twelve? And yet one of you*

is a devil." **71** He spoke of Judas the son of Simon Iscariot, for he, one of the Twelve, was going to betray him."

b. Fulfillment of Scripture

- i. Key to understanding His plan
- ii. Key to trusting His purposes
- iii. A Very Real Enemy
 - 1. They are real and not treated lightly
 - 2. They will be used for God's glory

c. Self-Identification

d. Sending Ambassadors

- i. **John 20:21**, "*Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you."*
- ii. **John 20:30-31**, "**30** Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; **31** but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name."
- iii. **2 Cor. 5:20-21**, "**20** Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. **21** For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."
- iv. **Matthew 28:18-20**, "**18** And Jesus came and said to them, "*All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. **19** Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, **20** teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.*"