

Encounters with Jesus

Jesus' Relationships in the Gospel of John

Lesson #11 – Washing the Disciples' Feet

May 6, 2009

Introduction

1. Review action plans from last week.
2. Background

John 13:1 – 17

- 1 Now before the Feast of the Passover, Jesus knowing that His hour had come that He would depart out of this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end.
- 2 During supper, the devil having already put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, *the son* of Simon, to betray Him,
- 3 *Jesus*, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come forth from God and was going back to God,
- 4 got up from supper, and laid aside His garments; and taking a towel, He girded Himself.
- 5 Then He poured water into the basin, and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded.
- 6 So He came to Simon Peter. He said to Him, "Lord, do You wash my feet?"
- 7 Jesus answered and said to him, "What I do you do not realize now, but you will understand hereafter."
- 8 Peter said to Him, "Never shall You wash my feet!" Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me."
- 9 Simon Peter said to Him, "Lord, *then wash* not only my feet, but also my hands and my head."
- 10 Jesus said to him, "He who has bathed needs only to wash his feet, but is completely clean; and you are clean, but not all *of you*."
- 11 For He knew the one who was betraying Him; for this reason He said, "Not all of you are clean."
- 12 So when He had washed their feet, and taken His garments and reclined *at the table* again, He said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you?"
- 13 "You call Me Teacher and Lord; and you are right, for *so* I am.
- 14 "If I then, the Lord and the Teacher, washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet.
- 15 "For I gave you an example that you also should do as I did to you.
- 16 "Truly, truly, I say to you, a slave is not greater than his master, nor *is* one who is sent greater than the one who sent him.
- 17 "If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

Observation

1. What people are identified in this passage?

2. What places are identified in this passage?

3. What timeframes are identified in this passage?

4. Other Observations

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Laws of Structure

- 1. Comparison** Showing how things are similar
- 2. Contrast** Showing how things are dissimilar
- 3. Repetition** *Identical* terms, phrases, clauses, etc. are repeated
- 4. Continuity** *Similar* terms, phrases, clauses, etc. are repeated
- 5. Continuation** Elaboration on an idea, term, etc.
- 6. Climax** Progression from lesser to greater toward some *high point* in the direction/flow of the text
- 7. Cruciality** An important idea, point, event which *changes* the direction/flow of the text
- 8. Interchange** Alternation of ideas, terms, etc. (A, B, A, B); Often used with Comparison/Contrast
- 9. Particularization/Generalization**
From specific to general/From general to specific
- 10. Causation/Substantiation**
From something's cause to its result/From result to cause
- 11. Instrumentation** Purpose, what is done and why; ends/means
- 12. Explanation/Analysis** Gives an event/idea and explains it
- 13. Preparation/Introduction** Helps the reader understand what is happening by setting it up (background, setting, context, etc.)
- 14. Summarization** Here is what happened/is going to happen; an abstract
- 15. Interrogation** Question/Answer or Problem/Situation
- 16. Harmony** Consistency between related things
(Promise/Fulfillment; Disease/Cure)

Interpretation

1. What questions does this passage raise?
2. There appears to be a connection between verses 3 & 4. What do you think it is?
3. Why would Jesus tell Peter that He must wash Peter's feet or he will have no part with Jesus (v.8)?
4. John's purpose is to lead us to believe that Jesus is the Word became flesh. How does belief factor into this passage? What does this passage teach us about belief?
5. What point do you think John is making in this passage?
6. Based on this passage, put yourself in the positions of Peter. Who is he? What is he like?

