

The Royalty of Service ~~Th...~~ *Maximally Purse*
Title: ~~Would you Do All For the Lord?~~

Text: John 13:1-17

I would like to ask you a question. Is there anything that you would not do for the Lord? Are there conditions that we put on servanthood? Yes, Lord, I will serve you in these areas of my life, but not in other areas. Do you ^{we} have conditions regarding servanthood, regarding what ^{we} you will do, or what ^{we} you will not do for the Lord?

let me illustration by having you consider a very difficult passage of scripture. Turn please to the Gospel of John chapter 13. John chapter 13.

and This is a very interesting portion of scripture. John chapter 13 thru 17 is dealing with the private ministry of Christ. Private in the sense that he is teaching His disciples principles of discipleship. That is..how to be a follower of christ. What does it mean to be a christian. In chapters 13 thru 17 we have instructions necessary for christian growth and discipleship.

Now, John chapter 13 verses 1-17 deals with that hard passage that Baptist like to ignore. Here we find the issue of foot washing. Let's read all about it.

(Read Vs 1-17)

Prayer

Now, tonight, I am not going to deal with whether or not foot washing should be practiced in the church today. I am not going to deal with that issue. But, I really want to deal with the message that Jesus intended for you and for me. And there are four things that I want to share with you concerning the message...the meaning that Jesus was trying to get across to his disciples through this act of washing feet. *-4 Things*

(1) Number one, I believe ^{Jesus} Christ is emphasizing His own sovereignty to these disciples that whatever He would instruct them they should do...even if they didn't understand it at the time. *His sovereignty*

He said in Vs 13.."You call me teacher and Lord; and you are right; for so I am. If I then, the Lord and the teacher, washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet."

Now, I believe what we have here is the Lord Jesus Christ emphasizing His sovereignty. We may sit here and discuss foot washing. Should it be part of the church, or shouldn't it? And we miss the sovereignty of Jesus Christ.

Dear friends, there ought not to be any question in your mind about whether or not you would do it...Do you understand? There ought not to be anything that we ~~would~~ ^{wouldn't} do for the sake of Jesus Christ. Even if it means the lowly service of washing someone else's feet. If Jesus wants us to do it, we ought to be willing to do it. Even though we, as Baptist, don't believe it is a practice of the church for this day and age.

You see, Dear friends, the issue is the sovereignty of Jesus Christ. That is the message of this passage. And I am asking you, and I am asking myself, are we willing to do anything that Jesus commands, even though we may not understand why or for what reason. ^{Golden Gate Bridge} Would we be willing to do that? NOT MY WILL, BUT THINE BE DONE. The sovereignty of Jesus is the message we must deal with.

(2) Now ~~Secondly~~, the second message deals with our service to one another.
Vs 14 says...Jesus speaking..."If I then, the Lord and the teacher, washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet." Two Things

~~Now~~ I happen to believe that our Lord taught the need of daily cleansing, here in the life of the believer. I am ~~we are~~ not talking about physical cleansing. I am ~~we are~~ talking about daily spiritual cleansing. And I think that is the point that Jesus is making

That even though you have a bath like in the blood of Jesus Christ and you have been washed clean from sin, yet, as we walk through the world we defile our walk, our feet, and we need to have it cleansed with the water of the word. ~~However~~, I believe from Vs 14, that our Lord was teaching our ~~service~~ service to one another. That Just as he performed the custom of the day in washing feet, so we ought to be the kind of people who would serve one another in the same way. *Even if that means to* WASH ONE ANOTHER'S FEET.

There ought not to be any question in our minds that we would serve each other in that way, No task would be too small. No matter what it was. (3E) Third, I believe our Lord is teaching the relationship of the servant to his Lord. For he says in Vs 15 "For I gave you an example that you also should do as I did to you." "Truly, truly I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master; neither ^{is} one who is sent greater than the one who sent him."

If Jesus did it, the point is, we ought to ~~do it~~. Whether you believe it is a practice or symbol of the church, or just a common custom of the day. The Bible is teaching us that the servants relationship to his lord is a very important issue and the main message here. *Issue - From Teaching*

Is there anything that Jesus did, that you don't want to do? The servant is not greater than his Lord. And neither is the one who is sent greater than the one who sent him. What a tremendous teaching.

(4E) Then-finally, the secret to happiness in Vs 17. Jesus said, "If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them."

I believe this is teaching active service. You can't just say, "well I know we ought to serve one another, but never do it." Never take the role of a servant and make an active application of God's word. THAT IS A VIOLATION OF WHAT THE WORD OF GOD IS TEACHING.

The blessedness and the happiness comes *To the one who is doing or* performance. Now, I know that some teach that the happiness comes only in the performance of the outward symbol. But I believe that is missing the depth of the passage. It isn't that we are blessed and happy because we do the outward symbol....

No, it is because we do the service that Jesus wants us to do. If we are not practicing as a habit of life ministering to one another in the role of a servant, even if it means washing ^{the} feet of my brother or sister, then we are not experiencing the blessedness.

Example
Love one another
13 times

I believe the whole point here is that the secret to happiness in the christian life is taking the role of a servant. It is saying to your brother or sister in the Lord: "LISTEN, THERE ISN'T ANYTHING I WOULDN'T DO FOR YOU. I DON'T CARE WHAT IT IS."

And there is where the happiness is found.....There is where the blessed condition is in the life of the believer. When he is willing to take the role of the servant and do anything that is necessary to express that love and that ministry to one another in Christ.

Wouldn't it be great if we all served one another in that way? You know, in Galatians 5 it tells us that ~~we are to love one another~~ by love we are to serve one another. And the way that the body of Christ is destroyed in its unity and ^{witness} service is if we have bitter envying and jealousy in our midst. If we are proud and not willing to humbel our self before God and say, "Lord, I will do anything that you want me to do. No matter what it is."

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The Royalty of

SERVICE FOR JESUS.

Are you a servant? Am I a servant?

Let's close with a word of prayer

~~and do that which ^{is} best for the point of the Body.~~
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~~and do that which ^{is} best for the point of the Body.~~

- ① The Sovereignty of Jesus Christ
- ② The Relationship of the servant to His Lord
- ③ Service to one another
- ④ Happiness comes through service

~~10% doing out of 90% - we should be minister in some~~

Compassity