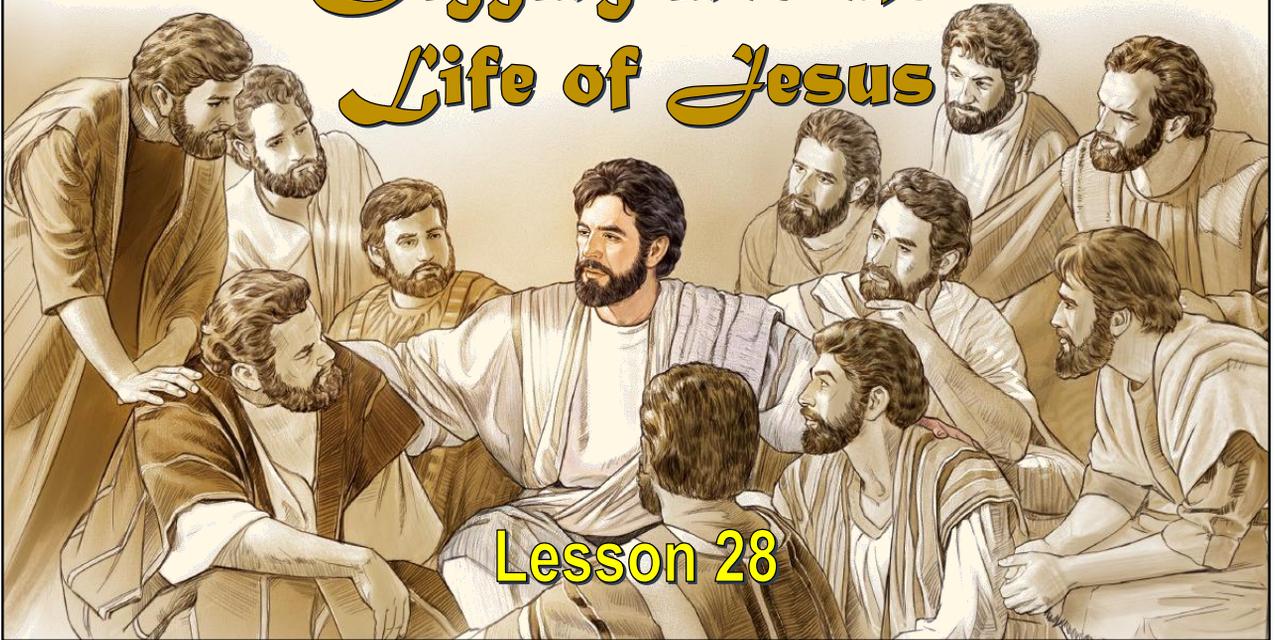


Digging into the Life of Jesus



Overview

28th May 2020

1. Question About Jesus Making Judas the Treasurer

2. Review of

Jesus Raises Lazarus from the Dead (11:41-44)

41 So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me."
Not a prayer of petition but of thanks to the Father. He knew His request would be answered!



Mary Anoints
Jesus
12:1-11



JESUS RIDES INTO JERUSALEM
12:12-19

3. Jesus Explains Why He Must Die (12:20-36) and the Rest of Chapter 12

4. John 13 – The Upper Room Discourse

“INSIGHTS” CORNER



Merriam-Webster's Definition:

1. the power or act of seeing into a situation
2. the act or result of apprehending the inner nature of things or of seeing intuitively

You may have a startling moment of insight, in which a certain portion of Scripture, issue or problem all at once seems to make sense in a way it has never have before.



There are many different degrees and gradations of insights, gradual moments of realization, and sudden bursts of inspiration.

Please Share Your Insights!

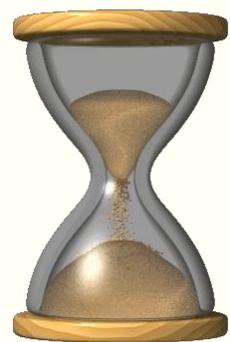
Last Week's Question:

Since Jesus knew all men and what was in men (2:24) and who would betray Him (6:64), why did He allow Judas to be the treasurer?



Elder Rocky's Insights:

Of course Jesus knew who Judas Iscariot was right from the very beginning - a thief and also the one to betray Him when His hour had come - so that the Scriptures would be fulfilled.



Eleanor Tan:

I believe he might have been elected by the others. Also because of God allowing us free will, Jesus did not stop or go against this decision.

He could also see the big picture. This was meant to be so that God's plan would be fulfilled.

It was in this duty of being a treasurer, that Judas allowed the foothold for Satan to step into his life. Again... free will. Judas allowed it.

It festered and grew to the final state where he was willing to betray our Lord for 30 pieces of silver!

Lesson - never ever allow the devil a foothold in our lives!!!



Jesus Raises Lazarus from the Dead (11:41-44)

41 So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me."

Not a prayer of petition but of thanks to the Father. He knew His request would be answered!



Thanksgiving is always the starting point for new endeavours that seek to honour God in our world.

Thanksgiving always looks forward to what God may yet do.

It builds our trust in God and it opens up new possibilities.



Every daybreak brings unlimited possibilities, challenges, hope.

Don't be shackled by your fears or intimidated by your circumstances.

Always be thankful.

Being thankful is a choice that we make, not a reaction that occurs when good things happen to us.

Choosing to be Thankful

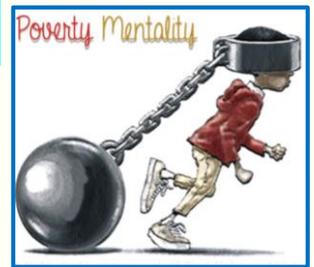
Mary Anoints
Jesus
12:1-11



Gratitude is living with the fundamental conviction and eternal truth that God is very, very good.

Every day presents countless opportunities to stop and appreciate who God is, what He has given, is giving, is yet to give!

Don't get so caught up in a **poverty mentality** or **a desire to have more** that you find it very difficult to recognise the abundance already in your life.

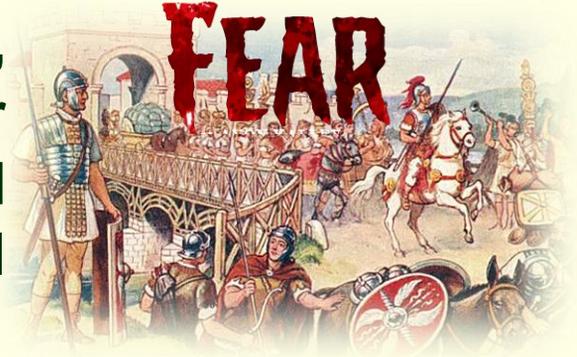


- What are you grateful about in your life right now?
- Where do you feel blessed?
- **By what means is God providing for your needs today? For what are you grateful?**



Such celebrations of honour would definitely catch the attention of the Roman authorities!

- a sense of foreboding, caused by the presence or nearness of a perceived danger or pain that is real or imagined.



Courage is not the absence of fear, but rather the judgment and belief that God is far **BIGGER** and **MORE IMPORTANT** than fear!

Remember, that the **Fear of the Lord** banishes all other fears!

If fear afflicts you, you are probably afraid of the wrong things. **The solution?**

**JESUS EXPLAINS WHY HE
MUST DIE
12:20-36**

John 12:20-36

20. Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks.
21. So these came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.”
22. Philip went and told Andrew; Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus.
23. And Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.

- 24.** Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.
- 25.** Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life.
- 26.** If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honour him.

- 27.** “Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? But for this purpose I have come to this hour.
- 28.** Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven: “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.”
- 29.** The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.”

- 30. Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not mine.**
- 31. Now is the judgement of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out.**
- 32. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself."**
- 33. He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die.**

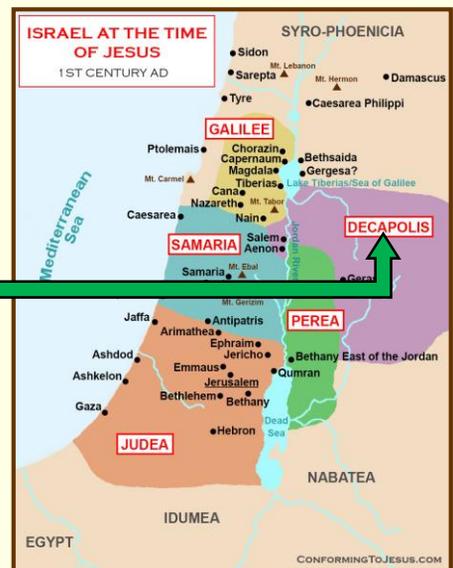
- 34. So the crowd answered him, "We have heard from the Law that the Christ remains for ever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?"**
- 35. So Jesus said to them, "The light is among you for a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you. The one who walks in the darkness does not know where he is going."**

36. While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light.”

20 Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the Feast.

Greeks: not Hellenistic Jews but Gentile Greeks who had joined the Jewish pilgrims to Jerusalem (because of where they lived).

Hellenistic Jews are Jews by ethnicity and religion who spoke Greek and accepted Greek culture (Acts 6:1).



Probably the Greeks were inquirers or seekers.

Jesus previously said that the time was not ready (John 2:4 and 7:6).

He took the seeking interest of Gentiles as the signal that now the hour has come that the Son of Man should be glorified.

21-23 They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, with a request. "Sir," they said, "we would like to see Jesus."

Philip went to tell Andrew; Andrew and Philip in turn told Jesus. Jesus replied, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified."



He would be beaten and crucified. Why did Jesus talk about being glorified?



In a sense, His death was glorious in that it provided salvation for all mankind.

But more likely, He refers, not just to His death, but also to the resurrection and ascension that would follow.



24 I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds.

Jesus compared His death to a grain that must fall to the ground and “die” in order to produce a new plant and more fruit.

The seed does not die in the sense of completely losing life. The seed changes form and sprouts to form new life.



At death, we change bodies, but the life continues on like a seed changing form to a plant.

The point is that, in order for one to enter a new form or body, life in another form or body must be given up.

The principle of sacrifice: one must be willing to give up what one has in order to accomplish something of greater value.



The application: by giving His life on the cross, He gave great benefit to all mankind.

Like the seed, He sacrificed Himself in order to produce a much greater benefit to others. This result would also lead to His “glory.”



25 The man who loves his life (ψυχή) will lose it, while the man who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life (ζωή).

ψυχή = the individual personality, with all its related experiences and achievements

ζωή = the spiritual vitality (the experience of God).

John 17:3 And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

If one loves this life to the point that he is resolved to keep and use it only for himself and his selfish purposes, he will lose his life in eternity.

Human beings tend to view every situation from a selfish and temporal vantage point.

God, however, operates from an eternal perspective.

If one is willing, like the seed, to sacrifice his life, the result will be a great harvest.

Self-centred people are the unhappiest people on the face of the earth.

They suppose that joy is found in grabbing things and getting their way, yet they are deceived and do not know the truth.

Real life is not about what we own or grab, but what we give.

The expression “who hates his life” does not mean a contempt for oneself.

Rather, it is an exaggerated expression that means one is to base his **priorities on that which is outside of himself. He is to make Christ the Master of one's life.**

How has this principle of the spiritual life manifested itself in your life?

How have you “died”?

What was the fruit that resulted?

What are the “first things” in your life?

Are these things receiving the attention, nurture, prominence, and time the Lord really wants you to give them?



26 Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honour the one who serves me.

We are invited to become followers of Jesus.

Not just believers. There is a difference. Even the devil believes there's a God.

(James 2:19 You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder!)



Follower assumes that someone is else is doing the leading, as in “He calls His own sheep by name and leads them out...He goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know His voice” (John 10:3-4).

To serve and follow Jesus means making radical life-style changes. What about your goals, interests, hobbies, career choices, habits?



What would it be like...

- **to yield to Christ in the details of your life?**
- **to follow His counsel and instruction in all the small and seemingly mundane decisions that add up to the life you find yourself living?**



The person you are today, your pattern, personality and innermost character, is the sum total of all your choices and decisions in life up to this date!

God has given each of us a mind and the capability to reason. We should put these human faculties to good use whenever we face decisions.



However, we should also remember that God wants to guide our decision-making so that we can become more and more like Jesus.

He may use the Scriptures or the words of trusted friends, but he may also use surprising ways. Therefore, be open and trusting, learning the right mix between using our intellect and listening to the Spirit.

To follow Jesus means going the way He went – not the way of earthly power and honour – but the way of servanthood and death.



Everything Jesus did was for God's glory. When we choose to follow Him, we must live for God's glory alone.



Are you willing to be available?

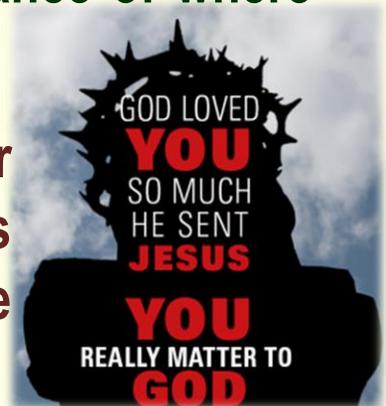
God will use anyone who is willing to be used, regardless of whether or not they or others think they are qualified.

God is looking not merely at our gifting, talents, training, experience or ability.

He is looking first and foremost at our availability!

Never underestimate the significance of where you are and what you do.

You matter to God. Your contribution to His kingdom does count, so do not let anyone devalue you or your contribution.



27-28 "Now my heart is troubled, and what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it was for **this very reason I came to this hour. Father, glorify your name!"**

Knowing this was the crucial hour, Jesus could not ask to escape the hour, because "for this reason/purpose I came to this hour."



The cross, which had cast a shadow over the entire life and ministry of Jesus, would now become a reality!

The Cross will do away with the penalty of our sin, but it is more powerful than a legal decree.

- It actually cleanses us of sin.
- It removes guilt and transforms lives.

It may take time for us to understand and learn how to live this life.



We should never settle for less than the Lord intended. He transforms us to be like him.

No one is a stranger to guilt. However, we all deal with it differently.

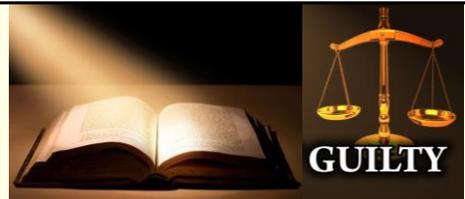
Guilt is a major factor in psychological problems. Often we respond to guilt with defence mechanisms – denial, blame-shifting, self-justification, self-loathing etc.

Instinctive reaction to deal with it on a psychological level.



Guilt feelings stimulate self-condemnation in the form of anxiety, inferiority, fear, worry, and pessimism.

Guilt is not an emotional state in Scripture. It's a legal one.



The first time we break God's law in even one small way, we are guilty.

When we believe and receive what Jesus did for us through his death and resurrection, we are no longer guilty. Settled once for all!

So what happens when we sin the next time?

What God wants us to experience when we sin as believers is **godly sorrow** (or “conviction of sin”), which is very different than what we would describe as “guilt.”

28-30 Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and will glorify it again.”

The crowd that was there and heard it said it had thundered; others said an angel had spoken to him. Jesus said, “This voice was for your benefit, not mine.”

This is the third audible Divine testimony to Jesus’ status as the Son of God, after the Divine voice at His baptism and His transfiguration.

At His Baptism: Matt 3:17 And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.”

At His Transfiguration: Matt 17:5 While he was still speaking, a bright cloud enveloped them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!”

The voice was not for Jesus’ benefit but for that of the people.

He already knew that God had been glorified by events on earth and would be so again (especially in His death and resurrection).

But the multitudes needed (and we need it too) to have the certainty that God would be glorified.

People need assurances that God is in full control!

Sometimes in our dark moments it appears that the forces of evil have the upper hand.

It's easy to get discouraged at the apparent success of evil and wickedness.

The disciples would feel that way in the days ahead.

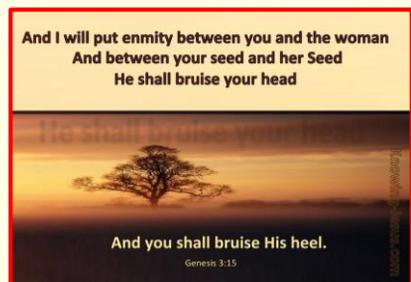
But Satan was defeated at the cross.

We need to embrace this as the eternal truth!

31-33 Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. But I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself." He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die.

The crisis of all ages had arrived. Jesus would die on the cross to redeem men from the curse of sin.

The head of Satan would now be "bruised" in fulfilment of Genesis 3:15. This great victory is the casting out of the prince of this world.



Heb 2:14-15 Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death — that is, the devil — and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.

“Will draw all men to myself” does not imply that all men will ultimately be saved.

Instead, it means that Christ draws men to Himself without prejudice, regardless of nationality, race, or status.

34 The crowd spoke up, “We have heard from the Law that the Christ will remain forever, so how can you say, ‘The Son of Man must be lifted up’? Who is this ‘Son of Man’?”

The people had been taught only the passages from the law which speak of the triumph of the Messiah (Psa 72:17; Isaiah 9:6-7, Eze 37:26-28).

They were virtually unaware of the passages that speak of His suffering (such as Psalm 22 and Isaiah 53).



Who is this 'Son of Man'?"

Their question implies that His concept of its meaning was different from theirs. Their apocalyptic Son of Man would not die.

Jesus enlarged the concept by applying it to the whole of His work: His true humanity, His suffering, His death, His resurrection and ascension.



35 Then Jesus told them, “You are going to have the light just a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, before darkness overtakes you. The man who walks in the dark does not know where he is going.”

The ones enlightened by God would recognise their Messiah.

The light of Jesus’ physical presence on earth was about to be extinguished.

The darkness of Satan's evil influence would overtake those who would refuse to accept Jesus' light.

To walk in darkness is to be clueless about where one is going (spiritual error and confusion).



36a "Put your trust in the light while you have it, so that you may become sons of light."

Believe in Jesus, who is the light, and become His children i.e. a person characterized by light and the blessings associated it, just like a child shares the characteristics of his father.

The opportunity was available to all, but not for much longer, for Jesus was about to depart this world.

36b When he had finished speaking, Jesus left and hid himself from them.

Translation Difficulty: Whether He went somewhere unknown, or was supernaturally covered, Scripture does not say. Either way, this encounter and His public ministry are now closed.

**MOST OF THE PEOPLE DO NOT
BELIEVE IN JESUS
12:37-43**

37. Though he had done so many signs before them, they still did not believe in him,

38. so that the word spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: “Lord, who has believed what he heard from us, and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?”

39. Therefore they could not believe. For again Isaiah said,

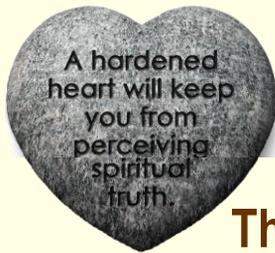
40. “He has blinded their eyes and hardened their heart, lest they see with their eyes, and understand with their heart, and turn, and I would heal them.”

41. Isaiah said these things because he saw his glory and spoke of him.

42. Nevertheless, many even of the authorities believed in him, but for fear of the Pharisees they did not confess it, so that they would not be put out of the synagogue;

43. for they loved the glory that comes from man more than the glory that comes from God.

37 Even after Jesus had done all these miraculous signs in their presence, they still would not believe in him.



Sin causes hearts to grow hard, especially continual and unrepentant sin.

Pride will also cause our hearts to harden.

The “pride of your heart has deceived you... you who say to yourself, ‘who can bring me down to the ground’...I will bring you down declares the LORD. (Obadiah 3).

The place where the flames of spiritual intimacy burns brightest is the heart.

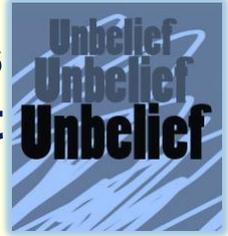
It is the part of our being where we desire, deliberate, and decide. It is the centre of our being, the place to which God looks at.

The Pharisees had a neat theological framework based on the externals.

But Jesus said they were like “whitewashed tombs” (Matthew 23:27), externally pure but dead at the centre of their being.

38 This was to fulfil the word of Isaiah the prophet: "Lord, who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?" (Isaiah 53:1)

This does not mean that the Pharisees disbelieved in order to fulfill prophecy, but that their unbelief had been foretold by Isaiah.



Because the people would not believe, they eventually could not believe. As a result, the Jews remained unenlightened and hardened.

It is possible to harden your heart to the place where you *cannot* believe. Therefore we must believe while there is light.

Sometimes people believe what they want to believe, in spite of contrary evidence.

**That's their belief system at work
– they see what they want to see,
rather than what is.**

**Belief
System**

39-41 For this reason they could not believe, because, as Isaiah says elsewhere:

"He has blinded their eyes and deadened their hearts, so they can neither see with their eyes, nor understand with their hearts, nor turn — and I would heal them." (Isaiah 6:10)

Isaiah said this because he saw Jesus' glory and spoke about him.

Conditioning: These had conditioned themselves so that unbelief became natural for them.

The person who rejects God's Son chooses to be blind and to harden his heart.

Therefore, he is given over to a just punishment.

42 Yet at the same time many even among the leaders believed in him. But because of the Pharisees they would not confess their faith for fear they would be put out of the synagogue;

This love of the praise of men is deadly, and keeps many from a life fully committed to God.

The thing lacking was not faith (they had it all) but obedience (they would not confess).

Is it possible to be a secret follower of Jesus?

Only temporarily; either the secrecy will cancel out the belief, or the belief will cancel out the secrecy.

43 for they loved praise from men more than praise from God.

Regardless of the faith that may exist in the heart, it is the love of God which must sustain and activate it.

There must be love to complement and complete our faith. Jesus says **“If you love me, you will keep my commandments”** (John 14:15).

Jesus Summarises His Message 12:44-50

44. And Jesus cried out and said, “Whoever believes in me, believes not in me but in him who sent me.

45. And whoever sees me sees him who sent me.

46. I have come into the world as light, so that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness.

47. If anyone hears my words and does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world.

48. The one who rejects me and does not receive my words has a judge; the word that I have spoken will judge him on the last day.

49. For I have not spoken on my own authority, but the Father who sent me has himself given me a commandment—what to say and what to speak.

50. And I know that his commandment is eternal life. What I say, therefore, I say as the Father has told me.”

44-45 Then Jesus cried out, "When a man believes in me, he does not believe in me only, but in the one who sent me. When he looks at me, he sees the one who sent me.

Jesus is God. To believe in God we must believe in Jesus. If you want to know what God is like, study the person and words of Jesus.

Hebrews 1:3a: He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power.

The Father and the Son are inseparable; though they are two personalities, they work as one being.

Jesus spoke of the Father as the one who had sent Him, and He claimed to be the light that illumines the darkness of those who are without God.

46 I have come into the world as a light, so that no one who believes in me should stay in darkness.

Those who believe in Jesus have left Satan's dark kingdom and influence, and they have entered the light of God's kingdom.

Some Christians act as though they still remain in darkness.

Jesus died so that we might be transformed. If our life is not changing, we may not have begun to really follow the light.

We pray for God's will to be done in our lives, but we often wrestle and uncomfortable with the things that God asks of us.

Reason?

We fear that what God asks of us will be too difficult and demanding. We believe that He is loving in His grace, but burdensome in His will.

If that's your experience, remember His will is always good and perfect. It is the path to life.

While His will may call us to adjust or abandon our preferred plans, priorities and life's preoccupations, **the experience of doing God's will is in the long run exhilarating, never bothersome or burdensome.**

It brings with it a sense of direction, purpose, meaning and joy.



yes,
Lord,
use even me!

It has its own particular surprises and revelations, plus its own special sustenance and empowerment.

47-48 “As for the person who hears my words but does not keep them, I do not judge him. For I did not come to judge the world, but to save it.

There is a judge for the one who rejects me and does not accept my words; that very word which I spoke will condemn him at the last day.”

The purpose of Jesus' first mission on earth was not to judge people, but to show them the way to find salvation and eternal life.

When He comes again, one of His main purposes will be to judge people for how they lived and in whom do they believe.



People will be condemned because they would not accept and obey Him.

49-50 For I did not speak of my own accord, but the Father who sent me commanded me what to say and how to say it. I know that his command leads to eternal life. So whatever I say is just what the Father has told me to say."

Jesus coordinated His will to fully comply with the Father's will. Thus to respond to Jesus is to respond to God. To believe in Jesus is to believe in God.

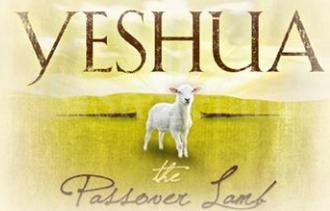
John 13



John 1-12 span over 3 years.

John 13-19 cover one night! - Jesus' last supper and the hours leading up to the crucifixion.

Jesus had said He would be crucified at the Passover. He would be the Passover Lamb.



He knew He would die, yet He went ahead with the events that He knew would lead to that conclusion.

He went ahead because He loved His own until the end.

1. Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to 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, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him,
3. Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God,
4. rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist.

5. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him.
6. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, do you wash my feet?"
7. Jesus answered him, "What I am doing you do not understand now, but afterward you will understand."
8. Peter said to him, "You shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no share with me."

9. **Simon Peter said to him, “Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!”**
10. **Jesus said to him, “The one who has bathed does not need to wash, except for his feet, but is completely clean. And you are clean, but not every one of you.”**
11. **For he knew who was to betray him; that was why he said, “Not all of you are clean.”**
12. **When he had washed their feet and put on his outer garments and resumed his place, he said to them, “Do you understand 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, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet.**



Outline of John 13

John 13:1-14 : Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet

John 13:15-20 : A servant is Not greater than His Master

John 13:21-30 : One of You Will Betray Me

John 13:31-35 : God is Glorified

John 13:36-38 : Jesus Foretells Peter's Denial

1a Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father,

John 13 to 17 is known as the Upper Room Discourse.

In just a few short hours (somewhere between fifteen and eighteen hours) Jesus would be crucified.

His first reference to His hour was to His mother when at the beginning of His public ministry He said to her, "My hour has not yet come."

Now the long anticipated time has come!

Jesus had such a keen sense of God's timing.

No matter what we do, we cannot run ahead of God's timing.

If we do, we might be unprepared and ill-equipped for the task at hand.

We always want to reach our destination sooner rather than later. We have to learn to run our races in the time that God has ordained.

Learn to be more sensitive to His timing!



1b having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.

Jesus knew all things and He loved His own.

Sometimes people are afraid to reveal themselves for fear that if others knew them better, they would not be loved. Jesus isn't like that.

He knows us completely, even better than we know ourselves, yet He loves us to the end (= to perfection, or to completion, or even to the uttermost).



2 During supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him,

How could Judas, who has travelled with Jesus for 3 years,

- **witnessed all of His miracles,**
 - **heard His teachings first hand,**
 - **witnessed the depth of His love,**
- and still not be convinced that He was the son of God?**



The love of money motivated him to commit other evils as well.

His betrayal of Jesus was not his first act of covetousness or greed.

He had already established that pattern in his life, and simply continued that pattern here.



In fact, this event happened soon after Jesus had corrected Judas for his criticism of Mary's use of valuable perfume to anoint Jesus.

Elder Rocky's Insight:

As a thief Judas would never be satisfied with what he had. Money not enough! Would be always in his mind. Just like all the other disciples, when Jesus called, 'Come follow me.' they left everything and followed Jesus.

So Judas Iscariot also followed straightaway. But his intentions might be different from the rest. He thought that by following Jesus might become rich and famous when Jesus' kingdom would be established.

What's more with him being the treasurer. Throughout the 3 years of Jesus' ministry he was just like any of the other disciples, having the ability to do what they had to do. Donations received could be small.

Then when Mary broke the jar of priceless ointment and poured it to clean Jesus' feet he voiced his disapproval hoping that the others would support him. This could be the first time he could have received such a valuable gift that he could have in the coffers.

But when Jesus rebuked him, then he realised that what he had anticipated in the beginning would not happen and frustrations might have arose inside him.

Following Jesus seemed futile as all Jesus' enemies sought to kill Him.

It was then that Judas sought to betray Jesus in order that he might be richly rewarded. Money was more important to him than the life of Jesus.

2 During supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him,

A better translation: the devil had already made up his mind that Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, should betray him.



Satan looked for a man to betray Jesus, and had probably cultivated Judas for a long time. Now the choice was made.

Satan himself is a creature and is limited in his powers. He has the power to suggest and motivate evil deeds, but this power is effective only in those who have consented to evil domination.

Judas had already consented to sin and readily became the instrument of Satan through his own will.

Perhaps Judas had been mulling over for a period of time. He knew that a reward had been offered by the rulers if anyone would reveal to them the whereabouts of Jesus.

3 Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God,

Jesus was not unaware of what was transpiring around Him.

He knew that the Father had put all things under His power, and that He had come from God and was returning to God.

**Jesus was
not a victim.
He
volunteered
for the
mission!**

Jesus' inner awareness of His power did not deter His ministry to His disciples whom He had chosen and to give them an object lesson in humility.

Matthew mentioned "all authority" as belonging to Christ (Matthew 28:18-20).

All of the power in the universe was given to Him. Yet He was willing to humble Himself.

4-5 rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist.



Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

The Background: Luke 22 records the jealousy of the Twelve among themselves as to who was "greatest."

Perhaps, that's why none of them volunteered to perform the menial task of washing feet.

Most likely, their pride had been stimulated by the adulation and adoration the people showed when they entered the city with Jesus.



Like others, they excitedly expected the time was at hand for Jesus to announce His kingdom and attempt to begin His earthly reign.

This boosted their pride and encouraged them to jockey for the top places, since they were part of the inner circle.