

Study of John 13

by

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John 13:1-38

*1 Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Yeshua knew that His hour was come that He should depart out of this world unto the Father; having loved **HIS OWN** which were in the world, He loved them unto the end.*

This tells us that Messiah was aware that at this Passover Feast, that is referred to here in *John 13*, was going to be His **last Feast** here on earth, before His prophesied death and resurrection. And John gives us a detail that is very important, and that we should all take to heart, he says that Messiah loved **HIS OWN even unto death**. What people do you think fit the category of **HIS OWN, that He loved unto death**? Well, according to Scripture, **HIS OWN** are the people that our heavenly Father gave Him. And who are the people that our heavenly Father gave Him? They are the people that have willingly chosen to surrender their hearts, minds, souls and strength to our heavenly Father, in total loving surrendered obedience to all of His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, all the Words of His Torah, His Directives for everlasting Life.

*Matthew 15:24 But Messiah answered and said, I am **NOT** sent **BUT** unto the lost sheep **OF THE HOUSE OF YISRAEL**. I am **NOT** sent the house of Judaism, **NOR** I am sent to the house of Catholicism, **NOR** I am sent the house of Christianity, **NOR** and I sent to the house of any man made religions of this world, **BUT**, the Father sent Me, to the **Lost sheep of the House of Yisrael**, which is the **ONLY** Family that My heavenly Father has **given** Me.*

*Verse 2 And when the supper was ended, the devil having now influenced the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray Messiah; 3 Yeshua knowing that the Father had given **ALL** things into His hands, and that He was come from Elohim, and went to Elohim;*

This betrayal of Messiah, was premeditated, which means, that Judas had put a lot of time into planning this betrayal. Now, just try and imagine in your own mind, what kind of heart condition a man must have, to betray the Son of the Living Elohim, in whom our heavenly Father said he was well pleased with, who was the catalyst through which our heavenly Father healed all the people that came to Messiah, and who taught people to love each other, and to help people in need, the same Yeshua who taught all people, that lying, cheating, stealing, coveting, murder, and host of other things were wrong, what kind of hard heart does it take to **betray** a man like Messiah?

I have tried and tried to understand what kind of heart would do such a thing, to the Son of Elohim, in whom our heavenly Father was pleased, and for the life of me, I cannot even begin to imagine what was going through Judas' mind, to do such a thing.

Verse 4 Messiah rose from supper, and laid aside His garments; and took a towel, and girded Himself. 5 After that, He poured water into a basin, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel wherewith He was girded.

During biblical times, in the houses that could afford to have servants, the lowliest of the servants was the one that was given the task of washing the guests' feet, either before or just after they had entered the home that they were visiting, and here, we are told that Messiah Himself willingly takes on the role of that lowly servant, and He washes His Disciples feet. The question that we have to ask ourselves **IS**, would **WE** be willing to take on that role, the role of the lowly servant? Or would we simply delegate that lowly task to someone else, since it is really the role of the lowly servant to wash peoples' feet?

Furthermore, we are told that Messiah took off His **garments** and laid them aside. I believe that the picture that Messiah is painting for us here, shows us, that **WE TOO**, are to set aside **ALL** of our earthly coverings, things that we rely on and think that we need for protection, and come before our heavenly Father with a surrendered heart, knowing and believing that our heavenly Father will be our covering, our protection. And the only way to achieve all of that, **IS** by following Messiah's example and becoming a servant to all people, as Messiah was a servant to all people.

After washing a few of the Disciples feet, Messiah came to Peter and in *verse 6* we are told what Peter said: *and Peter said unto Him, Master, do You wash my feet? 7 Yeshua answered and said unto him, What I do, you do NOT understand NOW; BUT you SHALL know hereafter.*

What is it that Peter and the other Disciples did **NOT** understand, **BUT** that they would learn and understand later? I have witnessed it first hand myself in Christian gatherings, where people put a heavy emphasis on washing peoples' feet, **BUT** they totally miss the lesson that Messiah is teaching all of us here, because, to most people, it becomes all about the **ACT** of washing the feet, but as soon as the act of washing the person's feet is over, then the washer of the feet, goes back to his regular role that he played before he washed peoples' feet, and does **NOT take the lesson that Messiah taught all of us, to heart**. Here I have to ask you a question; Do you **KNOW** what lesson Messiah is teaching us here in *John 13*?

Messiah taught us, through His act of washing His disciples feet, that we are to be **servants** in **ALL** situations, and in every aspect of our lives, and **NOT** just symbolically, we are to serve people as He did, in every situation, and **NOT** just for a photo opportunity, so that we can impress people with our so called *humbleness*, or when it is convenient, **because we have an audience**. Messiah wanted us to learn in our hearts, that the role of a **servant IS** a life time commitment, that has to be lived every day of our lives, and I have to admit, that I fail at that role many times, **BUT** as I have said so many times in the past, all of us, are works in progress, and the biggest part of any lesson, is knowing what the real purpose of the lesson is, and then, striving as best as we can to fulfill that role on a daily basis, and when we fail in that role, we must acknowledge our failure and begin anew, knowing that it might take a lifetime to perfect the **ROLE** that both our heavenly Father and His Son, our Messiah want us to fulfill.

Let's read what James had to say on the subject in *James 1:23 For IF any person is a hearer of the Word (the Torah), and NOT A DOER (of the Torah), he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: 24 For he beholds himself, and then goes his way, and right away, he forgets what manner of man he was;* (just like the person who washes someone's feet as a symbolic gesture, and then forgets that he is supposed to be a servant in every aspect of his life, and not just when there are people around to see it or when it is convenient). **25 BUT**

*whosoever looks into the perfect Torah (Law) of Liberty (for according to Scripture, Psalm 119:142, the Torah is **TRUTH**, and Scripture makes it abundantly clear that it **IS** the **TRUTH**, the Father's Torah of Life made flesh, that sets us **FREE**), and continues therein (in the Torah), he, **NOT being a forgetful hearer, BUT a DOER of the work** (the Torah), **this man shall be BLESSED in his deed.***

When Messiah approached Peter, we are told in *verse 8* what Peter said: *Peter said unto Messiah, You shall never wash my feet. Yeshua answered him, Peter, **IF I do NOT** wash you, you have **NO part with Me.***

What lesson is Messiah teaching Peter and to us here, when He said **IF I do NOT** wash you, you have **NO** part with Me?

First of all, we have to understand that Messiah **IS** the Living Word of our heavenly Father, His Living Torah made flesh, and therefore, in that context, we have to realize that it **IS** the Living Torah that **IS** speaking here, and the Living Torah says, **IF** a person **DOES NOT ALLOW himself to be fully immersed in, and cleansed by the water of the Word**, the Words of the Father's Book of the Torah, **THEN that person has NO part in Messiah, the Living Torah.**

How did Peter respond to Messiah, when Messiah, the Living Torah made flesh told Him, **IF YOU**, Peter, do **NOT** allow Me, the Words of the Living Torah made flesh, to wash and cleanse you, then you have no part in Me?

*Verse 9 Simon Peter said unto Him, Master, do **NOT** wash my feet only, **BUT** wash my hands and my head also.*

Once Peter understood that he had to allow Messiah to cleanse his feet, **IF** he wanted to be part of Messiah, the Words of the Living Torah made flesh, he said to Messiah, then, do not just wash my feet, but wash my hands and my head also.

Now we know that Messiah took on the role of the lowly servant and washed His disciples feet because, that was the role that the lowly servant played; **BUT** what is the spiritual meaning of the washing of

the feet of people? The feet, indicate the walk that we are on, and that walk is a picture of our daily lives, the path that we have chosen to walk on, and therefore the spiritual meaning of washing our feet, is that Messiah wants us to walk on the Father's Path of Righteousness, which Scripture tells us is the Words of His Torah of Life (*Deuteronomy 6:24-25*)

What is the spiritual picture that is painted by Peter, when he says wash my hand and my head also? Our hands represent our deeds, and our heads represent our thoughts, what we concentrate and focus on, and therefore, Peter is asking Messiah, the Words of the Living Torah made flesh, to cleanse his thoughts, and his deeds, so that they line up with the Father's Righteousness, for we are commanded to be Holy as He is Holy.

Psalm 119:17-18 Deal bountifully with Your servant, that I may live, and keep your word. 18 Open my eyes, that I may behold the wondrous things contained in Your Torah.

Yeshua then said to him, *He that is washed does **NOT** need to wash again, save to wash his feet, **BUT** is clean every whit:*

Here I believe that Messiah is telling us that once we surrender our hearts to our heavenly Father, and have made the commitment to allow the Holy Spirit of our heavenly Father to cause us to walk on His Path of Righteousness, in obedience to His Torah of life, we are clean, and we will remain clean, **AS LONG AS** we continue to follow that Path, but once in a while, our feet might get dirty, because we misstep for a moment, and our feet might need to be cleansed again, so that we can correct that error, as David corrected the many errors that he made, but his heart was always surrendered to the Word of Yahweh, His Torah. And that is why Yahweh called David, a man after His own heart, and I believe that that is what Messiah is teaching us here, by saying that *He that is washed does **NOT** need to wash again, save to wash his feet, **BUT** is clean every whit:*

*And you are clean, **BUT NOT ALL** of you are. 11 For Yeshua knew who would betray Him; therefore He said, You are **NOT** all clean.*

Here, it is obvious that Messiah is speaking of Judas, but we have to understand that He is also speaking of all people, who, like Judas, refuse to walk in total loving surrendered obedience to ALL of the Words of the Father's Torah, His Directives for everlasting Life, for **IF** we are **NOT** for Messiah, the Words of the living Torah made flesh, then Scripture tells us, that we are **against** Him, as Judas was.

Next Messiah explains what the lesson that He has just taught them, means, *verse 12 So after He had washed their feet, and had taken His garments, and was set down again, He said unto them, Do you **KNOW** what I have done to you? 13 You call Me Master and Adonai: and you say well; for so I am. 14 If I, then, **your Adonai and Master**, have washed your feet; **YOU** also ought to wash one another's feet. 15 For I have given you **an example**, that you should do as I have done to you. 16 Verily, verily, I say unto you, The **SERVANT IS NOT GREATER** than his Master; neither is he that is sent, greater than he that sent him.*

Messiah is telling His disciples and us, that He has been **SENT**, just like He will be sending them and us, out into the world, to teach the people of the world, who are mired in darkness, to come to the Light, and since Messiah, the Words of the Living Torah made flesh, **IS** the Light of the world, then that means, that the Living Torah, was sent into the world to be a Light to all the people who would willingly turn to it, and choose to believe, follow, and obey it. And **NOW**, Messiah says, that He is sending them, His disciples, to do the same, to be a Light onto the peoples of the world that are mired in Darkness, for they, His disciples, are **NOW** the **SENT ONES**, they are the watchmen on the wall that are to Shine brightly, and bring His Light, the Light of the Living Torah into this world of ours, that is mired in darkness.

Furthermore, Messiah says that the **SENT ONES** are **NOT greater than the one that sent them**, and since Messiah identifies Himself as a **SENT ONE**, it means that the ultimate Sender, **IS** our heavenly Father, and therefore, this tells us that there is no greater **ONE**, no greater entity, than our heavenly Father, for we are **ALL** to be **servants** of the Most High Elohim, our heavenly Father, as Messiah was, and taught us to be.

*John 14:28 Messiah said, you have heard how I said unto you, I go away, and come again unto you. If you loved Me, you would rejoice, because I said, I go unto the Father: for My Father IS **GREATER THAN I.***

Messiah tells us in *Verse 17* **IF** you **KNOW** these things, happy are you if you **DO** them.

Therefore, Messiah is saying, that true and everlasting **JOY**, will be achieved by all people who finally realize, that we **ALL** must become servants of our heavenly Father, just like Messiah Isa servant of our heavenly Father, and the sooner we can understand, believe and embrace that Fact, and **DO** what the Father has commanded us to **DO** in the Words of His Torah of Life, the happier we will be.

Verse 18 I do **NOT** speak of you all: I know whom I have chosen: **BUT**, so that the Scripture may be **fulfilled**, He that eats bread with Me, has lifted up his heel against Me.

Here Messiah says, that His message, describing the **JOY** that a person will experience when they willingly and lovingly embrace their role of being a **SENT ONE**, a servant of our heavenly Father, **IS NOT** for all of them, for there is one among the twelve, that has chosen, of his own accord, **NOT** to accept the role of being a **SENT ONE**, much less embrace that role, for he did not see Messiah's offer of being a **SENT ONE** as an opportunity to serve, for his heart, his spirit, his soul, was only governed or driven by the lusts of his own flesh, by his own lustful desires, rather than by the inerrant and everlasting Word of our heavenly Father, His Torah of Life.

Verse 19 Now I tell you before it comes, So that, when it does come to pass, you may believe that I am He.

Here Messiah tells His disciples of these events so that when these events actually happen, that their belief in Him, as the Son of the Most High Elohim, will be strengthened and confirmed.

Verse 20 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that receives whomsoever I **send**, receives **Me**; And He that receives **Me** receives **Him that sent Me**.

We have to understand that this scenario has never changed, nor will it ever change. Our heavenly Father is the Creator of all things, and because He is the Creator, He knows our heart condition, and therefore, He has allowed us to try and follow His Commandments by our own strength, our own understanding, without interfering in our lives, but, we failed miserably in the garden, and then we failed again, a second time, as human race, to believe follow and obey His Commandments in the years leading up to the flood, and after the flood all of mankind failed once again to follow and obey His Commandments, His Torah of Life, therefore, since He is our omniscient Creator, He knew that we would fail, and therefore He prepared a Saviour for us, a Saviour that He would send to earth in His perfect timing, so that, this Saviour, could once again teach us the Father's Path of Righteousness, His inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, His Torah of Life, since very few, if any people, were keeping it in the **GOOD** manner that YHVH had designed it to be kept, very few people were functioning in the manner that He created all of us to function in, which is in total loving surrendered obedience to **ALL** the Words of His Torah of Life.

Verse 21 When Yeshua had said these words, He was troubled in spirit, And testified, and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, that one of you shall betray Me.

Just try and imagine yourself, as being Messiah, the only begotten Son of our heavenly Father, the Words of the Living Torah of our heavenly Father, made flesh, who is filled with **GRACE** and **TRUTH**, the very same **TRUTH** that Scripture says, sets people **FREE**, and now, you have been with this group of people, your disciples, for three and a half years, teaching them and many others, all the Ways of the Father, the Words of the Torah of our heavenly Father, and how much that both of them, the Father and the Son, love all of their created beings, and, after doing all that, you find out that one person is betraying you, how troubled would you feel? Well, here, we are told that Messiah was troubled, but unlike you and me, who would be very troubled and probably very devastated because of the betrayal, we have to understand that Messiah was **NOT** troubled because of Judas' betrayal, for He already knew that that event had to happen, Messiah was troubled by the **FACT** that Judas' soul, his spirit, would perish and be lost forever, **IF** He did **NOT** repent and turn away from His evil intentions and actions.

Next we are told how Messiah's disciples reacted to Messiah's words, that He would be betrayed.

Verse 22 Then the disciples looked at one another, doubting of whom He spoke.

This tells us that like satan, the father of lies, Judas was very good at deceiving people, for none of the other disciples suspected him as the one who would eventually betray Messiah.

Verse 23 Now there was leaning on Yeshua's bosom one of His disciples, whom Yeshua loved. 24 Simon Peter therefore beckoned to him, that he should ask who it should be of whom Messiah spoke. 25 He then, that was lying on Yeshua's breast said unto Him, Master, who is it?

As you can see none of them were aware as to whom the betrayer was.

Verse 26 Yeshua answered, He said, it is him, to whom I shall give a morsel, after I have dipped it. And when He had dipped the morsel, He gave it to Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon. 27 And after the morsel was given to Judas by Messiah, the devil's influence on Judas' heart was intensified.

When a person is planning something evil, like betraying someone that they profess to love, then, when the event is just about to happen, the heart rate of that person is elevated because he is nearing his intended goal, and the goal that Judas had in mind, was to enrich himself by thirty pieces of silver, for according to the description that we are given of Judas, He was a thief.

The fact that Judas was a thief, is revealed to us in *John 12:4-6 Then said one of His disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, which should betray Him, 5 Why was this ointment NOT sold for three hundred pence, and given to the poor? 6 This, Judas said, NOT because he cared for the poor; BUT BECAUSE HE WAS A THIEF, and had the bag, and bare what was put therein.*

Now to put this in proper perspective, I searched out how much thirty pieces of silver would be worth in today's world. Each piece of silver would be in weight a little less than half an ounce

of **silver**. It's **value** as currency would be the common wages for a labouring man for **four days**, or in today's **value**, a journeymen earns around \$50 dollars an hour today, and therefore four days wages would mean 32 hours, or \$1,600. Therefore the **same 30 pieces of silver**, would be worth around \$48,000 dollars in today's value.

Then Yeshua said unto Judas, What you do, do quickly.

This shows us that Messiah new exactly what Judas was about to do, and Messiah does not show any anger whatsoever, instead, He told Judas to go about his business, go ahead with your plans of betrayal, and do it quickly.

Verse 28 Now no man at the table knew, Yeshua's intent and why He spoke these words unto Judas. 29 For some of them thought, because Judas had the bag, that Yeshua had said unto him, Buy those things that we have need of, for the Feast; or, that he should give something to the poor.

As I said before, Judas, like satan, was very good at deceiving people, for none of the other disciples knew what he was about to do, none of them knew what was in his heart, except for Messiah, the Words of the Living Torah made flesh.

Verse 30 Then having received the morsel from Yeshua, Judas went out immediately: and it was night.

It seems to me that since Messiah said that the person who would betray Him, is the one that He, Messiah, would give a morsel of food that had been dipped in the dish, but when that was done, exactly as He had prophesied, it appears that no one else paid attention to it, for they did **NOT** appear to know that Messiah gave that morsel that was dipped in a dish, into Judas' hands.

*Verse 31 Therefore, when Judas was gone out, Yeshua said, **NOW** is the Son of man glorified, and Elohim is glorified in Him. 32 **IF** Elohim **IS** glorified in Him, Elohim shall also glorify Him in Himself, and shall glorify Him, right away*

Why is Messiah saying that **NOW**, He, the Son of Man, is going to be glorified and that Elohim will also be glorified in Him?

The word Glorify in Hebrew is Keved,

(כבוד, which means, to be heavy, be weighty, to be honoured, was respected, was distinguished, great, hard, difficult, numerous, abundance, riches, wealth, abundance, multitude)

Messiah was glorified **because** He willingly and lovingly chose to obey our heavenly Father and therefore He allowed Himself to be sacrificed for **our Sins, our Transgressions** of the Father's Torah of Life, and our heavenly Father **IS** glorified because He made this difficult decision to sacrifice His only begotten Son, to save any and all people, who willingly and lovingly choose to believe, follow, obey and **DO** the Words of His Torah of Life, His Commandments that are contained in the Book of the Torah.

Verse 33 Little children, yet a little while I am with you. You shall seek Me: and as I said unto the Jews, Where I go, you cannot come; So now I say to you. 34 I give you a New

(Kainos, καινός, Strong's number G2537 καινός, kainós, pronounced, kahee-nos, of uncertain affinity; new, especially in freshness; while 3501 is properly so with respect to age, **new of that which is unaccustomed or unused, NOT new in time recent, BUT** new in form or quality, of different nature from what is contrasted of old, For example the New, Kainos tongues of *Mark 16:17* are the other tongues, the heteros of *Acts 2:4*. These languages, however, **were new and different, BUT NOT** in the sense that they had never been heard before, or that they were new to the hearers, for it is plain from *verse 8* that this is **NOT the case, they were NEW** languages to the speakers, different from those in which they were accustomed to speak)

Commandment,

(Entole, ἐντολή, Strong's number G1785 ἐντολή, entolḗ, pronounced, en-tol-ay' from 1781; injunction, a charge, a prescribed rule in accordance with which a thing is done, an authoritative prescription, a charge, commandment, precept)

What is very critical for us to understand, **IS** that Messiah could **NOT**, and would **NEVER** give a New Commandment, because the Torah specifically tells us that **NO** one **IS** to add to the Father's Commandments, **NOR** is anyone to take anything away from the Father's Commandments, and, **IF** Messiah were indeed inclined to give a New Commandment, then, He would be transgressing the Father's Torah, which Commands us in *Deuteronomy 4:1-2* **NOT** to do that; therefore, when these translators chose the word Kainos, whether they knew it or not, they were letting us know that what Messiah was saying is that He was **renewing** the Commandment, **to love each other**, He wanted us to restore our love for each other, **back to the way** that our heavenly Father had originally intended to be, at the beginning, which is, that we are supposed to **LOVE** one another as Messiah Himself, **LOVES** His Qahal, His Sheep, His Assembly, His Bride; **That you love one another; AS I, THE WORDS OF THE LIVING TORAH MADE FLESH, HAVE LOVED YOU**, That you restore the love for one another as it was in the beginning, as My heavenly Father created you to love one another.

Verse 35 This renewed level of love IS HOW all people SHALL KNOW, that you are My disciples, IF you have love one for another, as I the Living Torah love you

Verse 36 Simon Peter said unto Him, Master, where are you going? Yeshua answered him, Where I go, you cannot follow Me NOW;

Peter did not want to be apart from Messiah, he wanted to be at His side always, **BUT, IF** Messiah were to allow that to happen, **IF** He allowed Peter to go with Him, then that means that He would have been playing favourites, and that is a very destructive game, and furthermore, it means that none of the work that Peter eventually did to further the Word of Yahweh, to educate people about the benefits of choosing to believe, follow, obey and **DO** the Father's Torah of life, would have gone into the world, and the whole world would have suffered because of it, for when a righteous man, such as Peter, is removed from this earth, it creates a void, a vacuum, that will be felt the world over in the spiritual realm.

BUT you SHALL follow Me afterwards.

Messiah is telling Peter that even though he cannot come with Him now, that he, Peter will indeed get follow Him afterwards, and that is Messiah's guarantee to Peter and to us, that we will be with Messiah, wherever He chooses to be, after we die, because we, like Peter have determined to continue to walk as Messiah walked, and instructed all of us to walk, and that is in total loving surrendered, obedience, to **ALL** the Words of the Father's Torah of Life, His Directives for everlasting Life.

*Verse 37 Peter said unto Him, Master, why can I **NOT** follow You now? I will lay down my life for Your sake.*

Do you think that Peter loved Messiah? Do you think he would do absolutely anything for Messiah? The answer to that question, based on what Peter has said and done in the past, **IS** a resounding Yes. Now we have to ask ourselves that very same question, do we love Messiah enough that we too would be very willing to do absolutely anything and everything we could for Him? The answer, that I believe all of you would give me, is **YES**, a resounding **YES**, which is the very same answer that Peter would give to that question.

However, Messiah, who knew Peter's heart as well as He knows our hearts, said to Peter in *verse 38 Yeshua answered him, Will you lay down your life for My sake?*

This is very serious, because that is the very same question that Messiah is asking all of us, **WILL WE** willingly lay down our lives for Him? And as I said above, I am sure that all of you would say Yes, and like Peter, I am sure that you would mean it, **BUT** Messiah understands our hearts, what we love and what we fear, and that, when we are confronted, with possible death, in the manner that Messiah Himself was crucified, that fear takes over, and we may **NOT** be able to go through with our promise to put our lives on the line for Him, **BUT**, please remember that both Messiah and our heavenly Father, understood the choice that Peter made, and they were both very willing to forgive him, because he was afraid for his life, which is the instinct that took over when he denied that he knew Messiah, **THREE** times. *Verily, verily, I say unto you Peter, The cock shall **NOT** crow, until you have denied Me three times.*

Keep that in mind if you are ever forced into the situation that Peter found himself in, and **IF** you falter, turn to our heavenly Father, and you can rest assured, that He will forgive you, for He loves all of us with an infinite love. Amein

Studying and keeping Torah together as a community.

Have a great Elohim blessed week and may Yahweh bless your every thought, and your every deed. Until we meet again. Shalom Alechem! Amein