

"THE ULTIMATE SERVANT: JESUS CHRIST"

JOHN 13:1-17

INTRO: Many people these days are looking for WAYS TO HAPPINESS. And their search goes into many difference areas. But the text we have before us relates one of the most **SPIRITUALLY WHOLESOME WAYS TO HAPPINESS. BEING A TRUE SERVANT OF THE LORD.**

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THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE TEXT IS THE CONCEPT THAT EVERY CHRISTIAN IS CALLED TO SERVE OTHERS AND DOING SO BRINGS A SINCERE GODLY HAPPINESS.

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I. CHRIST PERFORMED A GREAT ACT OF HUMILITY - VSS. 4,5

A. Washing the feet of the Disciples. This was an act done only by servants.

B. Christ did the WHOLE ACT:

1. He Laid Aside His Garments
2. He Took a Towel
3. He Girded Himself
4. He Poured the Water
5. He Washed all of their Feet
6. He Dried their Feet

DOING THE WHOLE ACT SHOWS A COMPLETE EMPTINESS OF SELF

ILLUSTRATION:

II. CHRIST PROCLAIMED A GREAT DEGREE OF OBLIGATION

-VSS. 12-14

A. He Got the Attention of the Disciples - Vs. 12

B. He Established the fact of His Lordship - Vs. 13

C. He Laid out the Disciples Obligation to Serve - Vs. 14

D. He Established the Sphere of Service -Vs. 14

1. One Another - Everyone is to be served...no discrimination!

2. One Another's Feet - The most difficult service.

ILLSTRATION:

III. CHRIST PORTRAYED A GREAT EXAMPLE TO FOLLOW

-VSS. 15,16

A. He Stressed Total Emptiness of Self

B. He Emphasized that service "SHOULD" be done

C. He Explained that if the LORD serves, so should the SERVANT

D. He Indicated that Both the LORD and the SERVANT are to serve.

ILLUSTRATION:

IV. CHRIST PRESENTED A GREAT SOURCE OF HAPPINESS

-VS. 17

-Total service, as Christ did, brings genuine happiness.

ILLUSTRATION:

LESSONS TO LEARN:

- 1) If Christ served then so should we.
- 2) Christ had NO limits in His service. We should do the same.
- 3) Christ expects (commands) service from every Christian.
- 4) Serving is an act of Obedience

TRUE GODLY SERVICE FOLLOWS THE PATTERN OF CHRIST PERFECTLY. THAT IS, THE ONE WHO SERVES AS GOD DESIRES FORGETS HIMSELF AND DOES WHAT EVER IS NEEDED TO WHOMEVER IT IS NEEDED.