

Episode #1-51 – The End of Love

I. The purpose of the gospel of John is to produce believers in the fact that Jesus is the Christ, the One anointed by God to be the Savior of the world, and that Jesus is the Son of God, God represented in human form.

II. We continue to consider events leading up to the Lord's death. In John 13, the Lord showed the disciples the extent of His love when He stooped to wash their feet. Now, His teaching at the meal continues.

III. John 13:18-30. The traitor.

- A. V.18. The Lord did not make a mistake in choosing Judas. Psalm 41:9. "Lift up his heel" = opposing as an enemy. This was part of God's pre-ordained plan.
- B. V.19. When what He says happens, they will believe He is the "I Am," Exodus 3:14.
- C. V.20. Truly truly=most assuredly, used for great emphasis. Sent=*pempro*. A fact to keep in mind when reading Acts: to receive an apostle was to receive Jesus Christ, which was to receive God Himself. This does not apply in any way today.
- D. V.21. His Spirit=His thoughts were troubled. He verbalizes the truth of a betrayer.
- E. V.22. Judas knows what He is talking about, but the rest never imagined it.
- F. V.23. This doubtless refers to John himself. He often talks about himself as if he were talking about someone else. Because of the purpose of this book he wants to glorify Christ, not himself. They would recline to eat. The Lord was reclining to His right side, John was reclining on that side. This was a position of honor, along with the left, where Judas was sitting. The Lord loves all His disciples.
- G. V.24. Peter was on the left side beyond Judas, not facing the Lord, but facing John.
- H. V.25. Breast=bosom, as in verse 23. John was leaning over table to listen to Peter, then leans back to speak to the Lord.
- I. V.26. Greek = "morsel," as they were dipping food in the bitter cup. For the host to give a portion to one of his guests was a high honor. The Lord by doing this was appealing to Judas' heart.
- J. V.27. No hope left for Judas when he rejected this appeal. Then Satan was allowed to control him. Was Judas saved? Mark 14:21. Judas has no part in eonian life.
- K. V.28. The disciples missed the meaning of this. They were used to the Lord saying mysterious things. Judas as treasurer had a high position. Why would they ever expect the Lord to reveal the traitor by giving him a high honor?
- L. V.29. The Passover precedes the feast of unleavened bread, and so was the preparation day for that feast. As their treasurer, Judas probably often received instructions from the Lord as to things to do with their funds.
- M. V.30. The Lord's command and Satan's inspiration coincided in this case! Their days started in the evening. This was probably about 9:00PM.

IV. John 13:31-38. The time that has come.

- A. V.31. This is a strange statement, coming between washing feet and dying on a cross! He was glorified because of His humiliation through resurrection, and God as well.
- B. V.32. Interaction between God and the Son of Man. No distinction between Them.
- C. V.33. "Little children" = a term of endearment. True when compared to God! What He said to the Pharisees in John 7:34, He now says the same for them. The disciples were all Israelites, but Jews=ruling class in John. This was trauma for the disciples!

- D. V.34. This was a new commandment-but not the 11th commandment, as some have foolishly said. The 10 commandments were terms of covenant with Israel. The Rabbis claims there are 613 commands in the Old Testament. The Lord now gives a new one. New=kainos, different in character, not neos, new.
 - E. V.35. The distinguishing characteristic of His disciples is to be love. Here it is agape, God's self-sacrificing love. We too should be distinguished by this!
 - F. V.36. Clearly Peter didn't hear a word of verse 35. Peter already gave his life to follow Lord! The Lord does not answer Peter, but instead reiterates what He said before. He is going to His death. Peter could not follow now, but would afterward. Someday he would follow Him in a martyr's death, and in resurrection too.
 - G. V.37. Peter's real question. He had already laid it down in a sense by leaving everything to follow the Lord, but now claims he will die too. Doubtless he really meant it at the time, though events later would prove him wrong.
 - H. V.38. The Lord knows better. Peter was still part of the Lord's plan in spite of his failures. Why is there no account of the bread and the cup in John, like in the other three gospels? Because that has nothing to do with the purpose of John (John 20:31.) Therefore we can make no profound conclusions from its absence.
- V. Conclusion: Judas was the betrayer. The Lord loved him to the end, but he rejected it, and was let go. The Lord was heading to the cross, but this was all part of God's plan. Do we believe in Him, or reject Him as Judas did?