

Jesus is Lord... of Submission; John 13:12-15

I. Submit

- A. To subject, subordinate
- B. "The wise king always listened to his subjects' complaints"
- C. "The base commander gave orders to his subordinates"
- D. I think this is a very hard concept for us to live out
 - 1. Maybe we view this as a sign of weakness
 - 2. Maybe we really think of ourselves as better than those around us
- E. Whatever the reason, we have to change in order to be called a Christian

II. To One Another

- A. John 13:14–15; 14 If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. 15 For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you.
- B. We would rather be the one having our feet washed than the one doing the washing
- C. This occurred during Jesus' last Passover supper with His apostles
 - 1. Luke 22:7-23 details the beginning of the evening of Jesus' last Passover meal
 - 2. Right after Jesus tells His apostles that one of them will betray Him we read about a dispute among them
 - 3. Luke 22:24–27; 24 A dispute also arose among them, as to which of them was to be regarded as the greatest. 25 And he said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them, and those in authority over them are called benefactors. 26 But not so with you. Rather, let the greatest among you become as the youngest, and the leader as one who serves. 27 For who is the greater, one who reclines at table or one who serves? Is it not the one who reclines at table? But I am among you as the one who serves.
 - 4. Right after Jesus washes their feet we read how Jesus confronts Judas as His betrayer in John 13:21-30
 - 5. It would seem that in answer to the apostles' dispute about who was greater in the kingdom Jesus washes their feet to show them the the greatest is but a servant
 - 6. Judas was among those whose feet he washed
 - 7. It wasn't until after this that Judas left to go alert the religious leaders
- D. Paul confirms Jesus' teaching
 - 1. Ephesians 5:15–21; 15 Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, 16 making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. 17 Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. 18 And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, 19 addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, 20 giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, 21 submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.
 - 2. Our submission to each other is out of reverence to Christ
 - 3. "Reverence" - respect, sense of awe
- E. Because we honor and revere Christ we submit to one another

III. To Jesus

- A. Ephesians 1:18–23; 18 having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, 19 and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might 20 that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the

heavenly places, 21 far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. 22 And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, 23 which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

- B. Because of Jesus' sacrifice for us, God gave Him eternal and universal power (at His right hand)
 - C. "Put all things under his feet" - God has given Jesus authority over everything
 - D. "To the church"
 - 1. Christ is the head of the community of men and women who make up the church (His body)
 - 2. Just as we would submit ourselves to our employers rules, we submit ourselves to the head of the church
 - E. Colossians 1:15–19| 15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. 16 For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. 17 And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. 18 And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. 19 For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,
 - 1. Paul gives us an even clearer picture of Jesus and his authority (preeminence)
 - 2. All thing were created through and **FOR** Him
 - 3. Firstborn - this does not mean first as in time
 - a) We think of the firstborn the son or daughter who was born first (in time)
 - b) This phrase means original, unique, no other one
 - c) Jesus was first in kind, not first in time
 - F. We submit to one another and to Jesus
- IV. To God
- A. James 4:1–10
 - B. We needed to get the context of James statement in verses 7 and 10
 - 1. Verses 1-4 give us a clear picture of what submission to God is **NOT**
 - 2. And all we have to do is look around our city, state, country, and world to see this at work
 - 3. Submission to God is obedience to him
 - 4. Romans 1:1–5; 1 Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, 2 which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, 3 concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh 4 and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, 5 through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations,
 - 5. Paul's task was to preach the Gospel in order to bring people into obedience to the Faith
 - 6. Belief is not obedience
 - 7. When we submit ourselves to God we are telling Him that we will obey Him
 - 8. Hebrews 11:6; And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.
 - 9. Romans 10:9–13; 9 because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For

with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. 11 For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame." 12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. 13 For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

10. Luke 13:1–5; 1 There were some present at that very time who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. 2 And he answered them, "Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered in this way? 3 No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. 4 Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem? 5 No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish."
 11. "The implication here is that Pilate had sent a detachment of soldiers into the temple itself to execute bloody wrath on certain Galileans in the act of worshipping, their blood mingled with that of the sacrifices they were offering." Coffman
 12. But the idea is that the people present were busy accusing others of being sinners and failed to see themselves as sinners
 13. Acts 22:16; And now why do you wait? Rise and be baptized **[immersed]** and wash away your sins, calling on his name.'
 14. We are exhorted over and over again to remain faithful and not lose hope
 15. 1 Corinthians 9:24–27; 24 Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. 25 Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. 26 So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. 27 But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.
 16. Paul tells Timothy that some will depart from the faith, meaning that some will no longer be saved (1 Timothy 4:1)
- C. Submit yourselves to God, resist the Devil, bring about your obedience of faith!
- V. Jesus is Lord
- A. Of submission
 - B. Submit yourselves to one another
 - C. Submit yourselves to Jesus, the Head of the church
 - D. Submit yourselves to God