

# **The Towel Wearers**

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I. Introduction. Text: John 13:1-20.

II. Despite it being the end of His life during the foot washing, Jesus is still teaching His disciples.

A. Jesus' foot washing was a demonstration of His great love.

B. Jesus understood that when the time had come, He would make His exodus from the earth.  
(John 12)

III. The actions of Judas show that Jesus reveals things exactly the way that they are.

IV. The foot washing itself.

A. Jesus is dramatizing what He intended to do.

1. He arose from the table as He arose from the dead.

2. He laid aside His garments as He laid aside the glory of His deity.

3. He girded Himself as a servant.

4. He poured water into a basin as He would pour out His blood.

5. He washed the disciples' feet symbolizing the act of cleansing human lives with His blood.

6. He resumed His place after the work as He sat down by the Father after redemption had been completed.

B. Peter refuses to be washed by Jesus, which is a picture of the sinful pride of human beings who reject the cleansing of Jesus.

1. In our pride, we do not want to admit that we are in need of anything.

2. The gospel requires that we stand low in humility—in this place, we have nothing to offer ourselves.

C. A person is justified by faith—Christ cleanses the sin of the entire life.

1. As one walks through life there will be defilement accumulated on the feet.

2. We need regular cleansing by Jesus for daily defilement.

D. The disciples ought to wash one another's feet. Forgiveness is critical in this.

V. Jesus sacrificed Himself to save the people. Judas sacrificed Jesus to save himself. These are the contrasting philosophies of the world.

VI. There is no other way to the Father but Jesus.

**Application questions:**

1. How might the foot washing symbolize the acts Jesus was about to do?

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2. Why is humility essential for accepting the gospel?

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3. How would you respond to someone that says he or she has no need to be cleansed from sin? Explain.

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