

# The Basin and the Towel

John 13:1-17

## I. The Context (vs. 1-3)

Just before the Passover

The hour had come

**John 2:1-4; John 12:23-27**

Having loved His own

He loved them to the end

The devil had already prompted Judas

Father had put all things under His power

## II. The Action (vs. 4-5)

A. A common act

B. A menial act

C. A demeaning act

D. An act with social implications

## III. The Reaction (vs. 6-11)

A. Peter's response: "no, you shall never wash my feet"

What bothered them was not what Jesus was doing,  
but that He was doing it.

Why weren't their feet washed prior to this?

1) Jesus wanted to be the servant in this story.

**Mark 10:45**

2) The disciples were not willing to do it

**Luke 22:24-27**

B. Jesus' response:

"you do not realize now what I am doing, but later  
you will understand"

"Unless I wash you, you have no part with me"

**Only when you allow Jesus to wash you sin  
away do you have a part with Him.**

## IV. The Lesson (vs. 12-17)

A. The Truth (vs. 12-13)

I truly am your teacher and your Lord.

B. The Command (vs. 14-16)

I have done it for you – do it for one another.

C. The Promise (vs. 17)

you will receive a blessing if you do it.

**Followers of Jesus distinguish themselves  
through humble acts of service to those  
who don't expect it and are unable to repay it.**