

## *Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes*

### **Sermon Notes for March 18-19, 2006**

#### **"Loving to the Limit"**

#### **John 13:1-5**

"The Introduction" (John 1:1-18).

"The Period of Consideration" (John 1:19-4:54).

"The Period of Controversy" (John 5:1-6:71).

"The Period of Conflict" (John 7:1-11:57).

"The Period of Crisis" (John 12:1-12:50).

"The Period of Conference" (John 13:1-17:26).

The love of Christ exemplified (John 13:1-5).

I believe the apostle established the timing of the foot washing in relationship to the Passover meal to help his readers connect it with Christ's own climatic Passover act as the Lamb of God (John 13:1).

John used the foot washing, with the Passover as a backdrop, to illustrate for his readers how Jesus loved His disciples to the end (John 13:1).

While Christ loved His disciples to the end, Judas, harboring thoughts of betrayal according to John 13:2, did not love Christ in a similar way.

Satan had placed the thought of betraying Christ in the heart of Judas.

Jesus was able to love His disciples to the end in spite of all His personal adversity because of the things He knew to be true (John 13:3).

Jesus was able to love His disciples to the end in spite of all His personal adversity because He knew that His Father had given all things into His hands (John 13:3).

When John tells us that Jesus knew that His Father had put all things into His hands, he is telling us that Jesus knew that He, according to the will of His Father, was sovereign in all things.

Jesus was able to love His disciples to the end in spite of all His personal adversity because He also knew that the mission He had been sent on was coming to an end (John 13:3).

Foot washing was common in the Greco-Roman and first-century Jewish culture.

Though the task of foot washing was common, it was considered menial.

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The task of foot washing was so menial that, according to some Jewish sources, Jewish slaves were exempt, which left the task exclusively to Gentile slaves.

When Jesus laid aside His outer garments and wrapped Himself in a towel to wash His disciples feet, He was adopting the posture of a slave (Philippians 2:5-8).

May God give us the grace to know that He loves us and the grace to live our lives in light of that love.