

## *Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes*

### **Sermon Notes for March 25-26, 2006**

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

#### **John 13:6-11**

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

The love of Christ explained (John 13:6-11).

Peter resisted Christ's attempt to wash his feet because he believed that such a task was beneath Christ.

Jesus, in John 13:7, makes it clear to Peter that though He did not expect him to presently understand the significance of this foot washing, He did expect him to understand it in the future.

Peter, in the first part of John 13:8 was, in effect, telling Christ that no matter how much time elapsed, he would never, ever allow Christ to humiliate Himself by washing his feet.

Christ, in John 13:8, was not talking about washing Peter's feet with water, but rather He was talking about washing away Peter's sin with the blood of the cross as God's Passover Lamb.

Jesus, using the humiliation of the foot washing as a talking point, wanted Peter to understand that unless He, as God's Passover Lamb, humbled Himself on the cross, Peter would have no part with Him.

The word "part" (MEROS) was regularly used to speak of an inheritance (Luke 15:12) and could be used to speak of eschatological blessings (Revelation 20:6).

Christ was, in essence, telling Peter that the future blessing of the kingdom was dependent upon His humiliation on the cross of Calvary.

Peter accepting, though not fully understanding what Christ had said about the necessity of him being washed, dramatically changed his attitude about the foot washing in John 13:9.

Peter's attitude was so dramatically changed about the foot washing that he invited a further work of cleansing.

A better translation of John 13:10 I believe would be, "He who had a bath (LOUO) does not need to wash" (NIPTO).

Christ wanted to make sure that Peter knew that once a person had been washed in the blood of His cross, they would not need to be washed again as Peter had suggested.

May God grant us the grace, when He lovingly permits difficult things to come into our lives, to trust Him knowing that though we may not know what is best for us, He does.