

The King who loved a maiden



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APPRENTICING WITH JESUS

The Power of a Towel
John 13:1-17

“It was just before the Passover Festival. Jesus knew that the hour had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.” John 13:1 NIV



*“LORD, save us! LORD, grant us success!
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD.”*

Psalm 118 25-26 NIV



The Upper Room



*² The evening meal was in progress, and the devil had already prompted Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot, to betray Jesus. ³ Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; ⁴ so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. ⁵ After that, he poured water into a basin and **began to wash his disciples' feet**, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.*

⁶ He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?"

⁷ Jesus replied, "You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand."

John 13:2-7 NIV



The King's True Nature



The King's True Nature

- *so he got up from the meal,*
- *took off his outer clothing,*
- *and wrapped a towel around his waist.*
- *he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.*
- *When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place.*

John 13:2-5,12 NIV



The King's True Nature



“Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being. When he appeared in human form, he humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal’s death on a cross.

Therefore, God elevated him to the place of highest honour and gave him the name above all other names, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue declare that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” Phil 2:6-11 NLT



The King's View of Royalty



No, you shall never wash my feet.” John 13:8



The King's View of Royalty



“Heaven forbid, Lord, ...This will never happen to you!”

“Get away from me Satan!... You are seeing things merely from a human point of view, not from God’s”

Matt 16:22-23 NLT



The King's View of Royalty

“This is not just an active lesson in humility. Peter could have understood that. The foot washing is a sign of that ultimate subversion of all human authority which took place when Jesus was crucified by the decision of the powers that rule this present age. In that act, the wisdom of this world was shown to be folly, and the powers of this world were disarmed. But flesh and blood—ordinary human nature—is in principle incapable of understanding this. It is to the Jew a scandal, to the Greek, folly. Only those whom the risen Christ will call and to whom the Holy Spirit will be given will know that this folly is the wisdom of God, and this weakness is the power of God. At that moment, as the man he is, Peter cannot understand. The natural man makes gods in his own image. A supreme God will be the one who stands at the summit of the chain of command. How can the natural man recognize this supreme God in the stooping figure of a slave clad only with a loincloth?” --- Lesslie Newbigin



The King's View of Royalty

"... Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." Matt 20:28 NIV



The King's View of Royalty

“A God on his knees before me humbles me and strangely makes me more God-centered. You see, if my only view of God is that of a supreme king at the summit of the chain of command, a king on the top rung of the ladder, it makes me much more self-centered. I’m always wondering how I will get to him and worrying about how I am doing: Am I making progress toward him? What can I do to make my way up to him?” -- Darrell Johnson



The King's Death



The King's Death

“I lay down my life—only to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord.” John 10:17 NIV



The King's Death

“Unless I wash you, you have no part with me.”

John 13:8 NIV



The King's Death

“Those who have had a bath need only to wash their feet; their whole body is clean.”

John 13:10 NIV



The King's Apprentices



The King's Apprentices

“Do you understand what I have done for you? You call me ‘Teacher’ and ‘Lord,’ and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet.” John 13:12-13 NIV





Brethren in Christ



The King's Apprentices

Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet." John 13:12-13 NIV



The King's Apprentices

“Jesus has laid aside his life for us all, and the debt which we owe to him is to be discharged by our subjection to our neighbours in loving service. **Our neighbour is the appointed agent authorized to receive what we owe the Master.**” -- Lesslie Newbigin



The King's Apprentices

“Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.”

Eph 5:21 NIV

Submit = “stand under”



The King's Apprentices

*“You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. **Not so with you**. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave— just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”*

Matt 20:25-28 NIV



The King's Apprentices



To End all Wars