

A person wearing a white, flowing robe is walking on water. The scene is set at sunset or sunrise, with a bright sun low on the horizon, creating a golden glow and reflecting on the water's surface. The person's feet are visible, splashing water as they walk. The overall mood is serene and miraculous.

# THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

**PART THIRTY-FIVE**

*The Word of Made Flesh*

# JOHN 13:1-5



# 1. Jesus Models Servanthood (vv. 1-5)

a. Last time (at the close of chapter 12), we stated that Jesus had concluded his public ministry

b. He shifts his focus to the disciples, who would need all that he had left to teach them, though much of it would not be understood until later



c. Jesus knows his time is up

i. How would you live if you knew your time on earth was coming to a close?

ii. Would you live it up because there was no tomorrow and you wanted to have all the fun you possibly could?



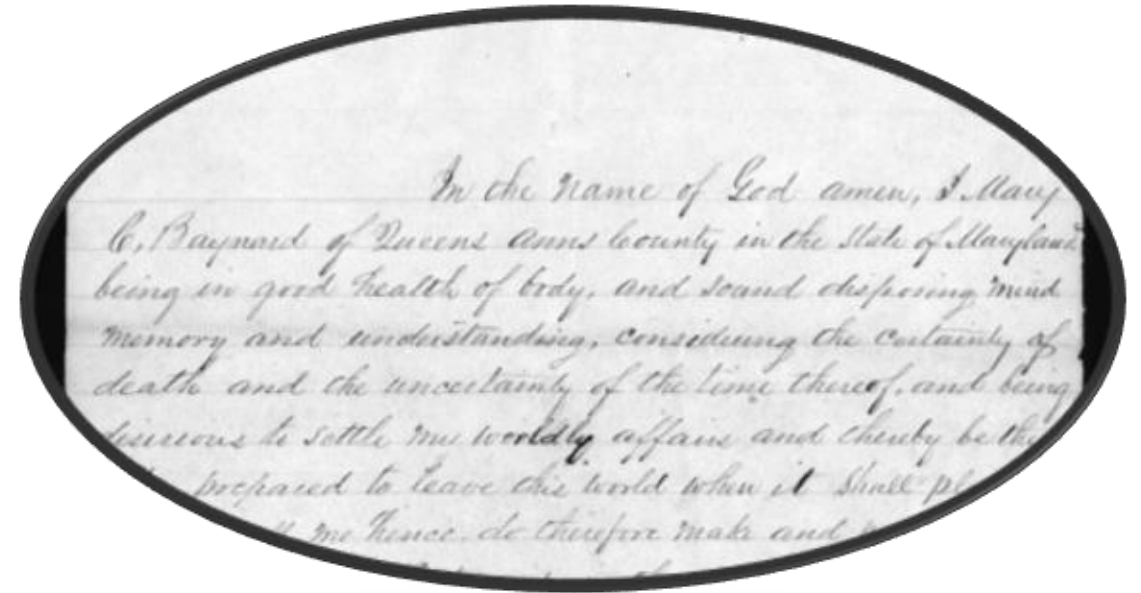
iii. Or would you prepare those you love for your departure?

iv. One response represents extreme selfishness and a hopeless mentality, while the other homes in on legacy and ensuring people and things are well after we are gone

v. John tells us the camp that Jesus belongs to, but he also tells us why this is the case



d. Jesus is motivated by love to ensure those he cares about are well after he is gone

A snippet of a handwritten document, likely a will, enclosed in a black oval frame. The text is written in cursive and discusses the testator's health and intentions regarding their worldly affairs.

In the name of God amen, I, Mary  
C. Baynard of Queens Anne county in the State of Maryland  
being in good health of body, and sound disposing mind  
memory and understanding, considering the certainty of  
death and the uncertainty of the time thereof, and being  
desirous to settle my worldly affairs and thereby be the  
prepared to leave the world when it shall please  
me hence do therefore make and

**Principle: It is a sign of genuine love when those who lead make preparations for the success and well-being of others at their departure--whether temporary or permanent**

- 1. Heads of Household**
- 2. Employer/Employee Relationships**
- 3. Church Leadership**





iii. What it means is that he loves them to the point of their maturity. Everything he does, including dying for them, is intended to grow and mature them



iv. Here is a word of comfort or challenge to some of us who have people in our lives that haven't quite reached their potential or lived up to expectations--Jesus says love them to the end; love them completely, understanding that what they are currently is not what they will be



**f. Verse 2 allows us another lesson about belief**

**i. How is it that Satan is able to put anything into the heart of someone who professes to be a disciple of Jesus?**

**ii. Because proximity does not indicate a pledge**



iii. When you don't believe but are in association with those who do, you become a prime candidate for the Enemy's collateral damage—an instrument of evil

g. This text is a reminder for some, and knowledge to others, that Satan is real, and will often be found in proximity to true Christian discipleship



**h. The other lesson we are taught is one of self-examination from the life of Judas**

**i. Don't have access to truth, but refuse to believe it**

**ii. Don't allow confusion, disappointment, or struggle to spiral into unbelief**



i. Jesus takes what he knows about Judas into account, and it informs what he does and says next (v.3ff.)

i. The knowledge of Satan's presence doesn't rattle Jesus as much as it alerts him



ii. He is not surprised by the plans of Judas

iii. Nor is he alarmed by the presence of Satan

iv. This knowledge moves him to act in a particular way



(1) And so I would encourage the same behavior of Christ's followers--let's not be so surprised by Satan's tactics, as they have not changed. Let us not be encumbered by the continuous onslaught of stupidity that we are forced to endure in the public square



(2) Rather, that knowledge should embolden us all the more to seek God's kingdom and the good of others

(3) Why, because the proliferation of evil and destructive narratives is are signs of Satan's desperation



**j. Then verse three teaches us a few things about Jesus' life and why he could respond as he does**

**i. Relationship- it is with the Father**

**ii. Purpose- He knows that he has come from the Father and is returning to him**



**iii. Identity-** So then, all Jesus does and says are bracketed in whom he's connected to, and what he has come to do

**k.** I would venture to say the misconstrual of these three is single-handedly responsible for 99% of our personal problems



i. We are disconnected from the Father, in a number of ways, all the while we are hooked up with the wrong people--and they become poor substitutes for God, missing from the equation



ii. Because we don't know the Father or the relationship is strained we have no idea what we are supposed to be doing or where to start and so we do what comes easiest or what we see others doing



iii. In the end, we struggle with who we are and where we belong, and we fight over who gets to tell us just how confused we really are or what we should call ourselves

