

## **John 13: 18-38**

v. 18 **Lifted his heel against me:** Jesus had [Psalm 41:9](#) in mind as He said this. *Ps 41:9 (NKJV) Even my own familiar friend in whom I trusted, Who ate my bread, Has lifted up his heel against me.* It had the sense of a treacherous, unexpected attack or taking cruel advantage of someone

v.19 **I tell you before it comes, that when it does come to pass, you may believe that I am:** Jesus didn't tell His disciples that one of them would betray Him because He just learned about it. He knew it all along. Jesus told them this so the *faithful* disciples would remain confident in Him.- it's just one of you

v. 21 **He was troubled in spirit:** Judas' betrayal of Jesus **troubled** Him. Jesus was not unfeeling or emotionally detached from the events surrounding His passion. He loved Judas, and was troubled for Judas' sake, much more than His own.

v. 22 Mark 14:19 (NKJV) And they began to be sorrowful, and to say to Him one by one, "Is it I?" And another said, "Is it I?"

Luke 22:23-24 (NKJV) 23 Then they began to question among themselves, which of them it was who would do this thing. 24 Now there was also a dispute among them, as to which of them should be considered the greatest.

“Though John pictures Jesus as in control of the situation he does not want us to think of Him as unmoved by the events through which He is passing.” (Morris)

**Most assuredly, I say to you, one of you will betray Me:** By revealing that one of them was a traitor, Jesus showed that He was in control of these events; He was not taken by surprise.

**Simon Peter therefore motioned to him to ask who it was of whom He spoke:** Peter's question to John (here mentioned as the disciple **whom Jesus loved**) may have been prompted by a desire to take preventative action. Peter couldn't discreetly ask Jesus, so he asked John.

**Leaning back on Jesus' breast, he said to Him:** At a special or ceremonial meal like this they would lay on their stomachs around a U-shaped table, leaning on their left elbow and eating with their right hand. It seems that from John's position next to Jesus, he could lean back and be close enough to speak quietly to Jesus and still be heard.- it would appear that Jesus was between John and Judas

v.26 **It is he to whom I shall give a piece of bread when I have dipped it:** The giving of the dipped bread designated special honor, something like a toast at a banquet. It was a mark of courtesy and esteem.

“When Jesus offers Judas a special morsel from the common dish, such as it was customary for a host to offer to an *honoured* guest, it is a mark of divine love which ever seeks to overcome evil with good.” (Tasker)

- contrast this with what has already taken place- *Luke 22:19 (NKJV) And He took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, “This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me.”*

v.28-30 Judas very respected but v.27 possessed by Satan

**After the piece of bread, Satan entered him:** It was already in the heart of Judas to betray Jesus ([John 13:2](#)). Some try to explain Judas motivation by saying it was the money, or he was pushing the messiah agenda, or possibly didn't want to be part of a messiah who would stoop to wash feet but

*John 3:18-19 (NKJV) 18 “He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. 19 “And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.*

Let's jump ahead and look at Peter's heart

v.36-38 Peter as we see is willing to follow with the flesh but the flesh isn't capable and will fail

- Peter will deny 3 times cursing as Jesus is questioned and humiliated
- Whose betrayal is worse?

v.31-35 Glory- Ex.24:16-17 ; Ex. 33- Hebrews 13

v.33 **Little children:** This is the only place in the Gospels where Jesus addressed His disciples as **little children**. He didn't mean it as an insult. He meant it with a sense of tenderness, care, and recognition of their present dependence and immaturity.

- **I shall be with you a little while longer . . . Where I am going, you cannot come:** This would have been like an earthquake to the disciples. They had literally left everything to follow Jesus, and expected to be high-ranking officials in His government when He took political control of Israel as Messiah. After three years they now heard Him say He would leave.

v.34“ **A new commandment: The specific ancient Greek work used here for new here implies freshness, or the opposite of outworn, rather than recent or different. It isn't that this commandment was just invented, but it will be presented in a new, fresh way.**

**That you love one another:** We might have thought the new commandment was for us to *love Jesus* in an outstanding way. Instead, Jesus directed them and us to **love one another**, emphasizing that there should be a special presence of love among followers of Jesus Christ.

**As I have loved you:** The *command* to love wasn't new; but the *extent* of love just displayed by Jesus was new, as would be the display of the cross. Love was newly defined from His example.

**By this all will know that you are My disciples:** Jesus said that **love** would be the identifying mark of His **disciples**. It wasn't that love for the outside world was not important or relevant, but it wasn't *first*. There are other measures of discipleship, but they come after this mark.

- Jesus would mark us as His disciples by our **love** for **one another**
- We can mark ourselves as His disciples by our **love** for **one another**
- The world can mark us as His disciples by our **love** for **one another**