

John 13 : 1-14—Memory Verses, 12, 13.

Golden Text—By love serve one another.—Gal. 5 : 13.



1 Now before the feast of the passover, when Je'sus knew that his hour was come that he should depart out of this world unto the Father, having loved his own which were in the world, he loved them unto the end.

2 And supper being ended, the devil having now put into the heart of Ju'das Iscar'iot, Si'mon's son, to betray him;

3 Je'sus knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he was come from God, and went to God ;

4 He riseth from supper, and laid aside his garments ; and took a towel, and girded himself.

5 After that he poureth water into a basin, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel wherewith he was girded.

6 Then cometh he to Si'mon Pe'ter : and Pe'ter saith unto him, Lord, dost thou wash my feet ?

7 Je'sus answered and said unto him, What I do thou knowest not now ; but thou shalt know hereafter.

8 Pe'ter saith unto him, Thou shalt never wash my feet. Je'sus answered him, If I wash thee not, thou hast no part with me.

9 Si'mon Pe'ter saith unto him, Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head.

10 Je'sus saith to him, He that is washed needeth not save to wash his feet, but is clean every whit : and ye are clean, but not all.

11 For he knew who should betray him ; therefore said he, Ye are not all clean.

12 So after he had washed their feet, and had taken his garments, and was set down again, he said unto them, Know ye what I have done to you ?

13 Ye call me Master and Lord : and ye say well ; for so I am.

14 If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet ; ye also ought to wash one another's feet.

THE LESSON RETOLD

The last evening before His death, Jesus made a supper for His disciples in a large upper room in Jerusalem. Knowing that Judas had made his plans to betray Him that very night to the priests and Pharisees, the Master spent His last evening comforting and preparing His beloved disciples for all that was about to happen. Until this time, some of the disciples had supposed that Jesus intended to set up an earthly kingdom in Jerusalem, in which they as His followers should receive the chief positions of honor. Even at the table, they disputed among themselves which should be the greatest.

Now the floor of a Jewish house was always covered with clean white mats. In order not to soil these, guests upon entering the house, left their shoes at the door, where

a slave was waiting with a basin of water, to wash the feet of each person who came in.

Jesus having seen the disciples striving with one another for the best places at the table, surprised everyone by getting up when supper was ended and pouring water into a basin, after which He took off His coat, and tying a towel about His waist, He began in turn to wash the feet of each disciple at the table, and to wipe them with the towel which He carried.

Though Jesus was their King, not one of the disciples had offered, although there was no servant present, to do this refreshing work for Him, after their long dusty walk from Bethany.

When it came to Peter's turn to have his feet washed, he was so ashamed to see the