

## John 13: “You’ll Never Wash My Feet”

Marlin Fannin—August 4, 2018

Happy Sabbath, everyone! The topic is John 13:8-10 where Peter is talking with Christ and says, ‘You’ll never wash my feet.’

John 13:3: “Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into *His* hands, and that He had come from God and was going to God, rose from supper and laid aside *His* garments; and after taking a towel, He secured it around Himself. Next, He poured water into a washing basin and began to wash the disciples’ feet, and to wipe *them* with the towel, which He had secured” (vs 3-5).

Verse 6: Then He came to Simon Peter; and he said to Him, ‘Lord, are You going to wash my feet?’ Jesus answered and said to him, ‘What I am doing you do not understand now, but you shall know after these things.’ Peter said to Him, ‘You shall not wash my feet, not ever.’ Jesus answered him, ‘If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me.’ Simon Peter said to Him, ‘Lord, not my feet only, but also *my* hands and *my* head” (vs 6-9).

I go through the Gospels right before the Passover and I’ve read this I don’t now how many times over the years and I never quite understood it, maybe still don’t, as to why Peter said, ‘Also my hands and my head.’

This year as I was reading through that, I automatically thought about Prov. 6 where it talks about the things that God says that He hates.

Proverbs 6:16: “These six *things* the LORD hates; yea, seven *are* an abomination unto Him: a proud look, a lying tongue, and **hands** that shed innocent blood, a **heart**... [*the mind*] ...that plots wicked imaginations, **feet** that are swift in running to evil, a false witness *who* speaks lies, and he who sows discord among brethren” (vs 16-19).

I thought about this: the mind/head, hands and feet. I would like to focus in the head, hands and feet and add some examples from the Bible and the outcome of those who committed such acts. I thought about Jezebel. She was a wicked queen, married to Ahab. Let’s see what she was involved in and what she got Ahab involved in.

### **Ahab & Jezebel:**

1-Kings 16:30: “And Ahab the son of Omri did evil in the sight of the LORD above all who *were* before him. And as if it had been a light thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, he also took Jezebel, the daughter of Ethbaal king of the Sidonians, for a wife. And **he went and served Baal, and worshiped him**” (vs 30-31).

We see that he took a wife and she wasn’t of the tribe of Israel.

from: A Footnote from the *King James Study Bible*:

As in the case of Solomon, political state marriage was to have a disastrous effect for Israel. So, Ahab’s reign was to bring Israel to its spiritual depths. Jezebel means *where is the prince-baal*.

She had grown up serving all of these pagan gods and the Ahab married her and she began to turn his heart toward all the things that she worshipped.

Verse 32: “And he reared up an altar for Baal in the house of Baal, which he had built in Samaria. And Ahab made a wooden image. And Ahab did more to provoke the LORD God of Israel to anger than all the kings of Israel who were before him” (vs 32-33).

We will see this evil act that was perpetrated by Jezebel. She was one that took charge and caused her husband to do this. It’s the story of Naboth and the vineyard:

1-Kings 21:1: “Now, it came to pass after these things, Naboth of Jezreel had a vineyard in Jezreel, near the palace of Ahab king of Samaria. And Ahab spoke to Naboth, saying, ‘Give me your vineyard so that I may have it for a garden of herbs because it *is* near my house. And I will give you a better vineyard than it. Or, if *it seems* good to you, I will give you the worth of it in silver” (vs 1-2).

In other words, I’ll give you a vineyard that was just as good, or better, or, ‘if you like, I’ll go ahead and buy it from you, pay you.’

Verse 3: “And Naboth said to Ahab, ‘Far be it from me, by the LORD, that I should give the inheritance of my fathers to you.” *We know that the inheritance was meant to be carried down within the family!*

Verse 4: “And Ahab came to his house heavy and displeased because of the word which Naboth the Jezreelite had spoken to him, for he had said, ‘I will not give you the inheritance of my fathers.’ And he [Ahab] lay upon his bed and turned away his face, and would not eat food. So, his wife Jezebel came to him and said to him, ‘Why is your spirit so sad that you are not eating food?’ And he said to her, ‘Because I spoke to Naboth of Jezreel and said to him, “Give me your vineyard for silver. Or else, if it pleases you, I will give you *another* vineyard for it.” And he answered, “I will not give

you my vineyard”” (vs 4-6).

So, he came home, went to bed and was pouting looking against the wall because he didn’t get what he wanted.

Verse 7: “And his wife Jezebel said to him, ‘Do you now rule over Israel?... [Are you a man or a mouse? Are you king over Israel or not?] ...Rise up, eat food, and let your heart be good. I will give you the vineyard of Naboth of Jezreel.’ And she wrote letters in Ahab’s name, and sealed *them* with his seal, and sent the letters to the elders and to the nobles in his city, dwelling with Naboth” (vs 7-8).

We see that by her *head*—her mind/thinking—she devised a plan, and by her *hand* she wrote this letter that would seal the fate of Naboth:

Verse 9: “And she wrote in the letter, saying, ‘Proclaim a fast and set Naboth on high among the people. And set two men, sons of Belial, before him to bear witness against him, saying, ‘You blasphemed God and the king.’ Then carry him out and stone him so that he may die.’ And the men of his city, the elders and the nobles who lived in his city did as Jezebel had sent to them, as it *was* written in the letters, which she had sent to them” (vs 9-11).

So, the elders of the city went ahead and proclaimed what the queen said.

Verse 12: “They proclaimed a fast and set Naboth on high among the people. And there came in two men, base fellows, and sat before him. And the base men witnessed against him, against Naboth in the presence of the people, saying, ‘Naboth blasphemed God and the king.’ And they carried him out of the city and stoned him with stones so that he died” (vs 12-13).

I didn’t realize it until I was working on this message, that they also killed all of Naboth’s sons. It only mentions Naboth here in 1-Kings 21.

2-Kings 9:26: “‘Surely, yesterday I have seen the blood of Naboth **and the blood of his sons**,’ says the LORD, ‘and I will repay you in this plot of ground,’ says the LORD. And now, take *him* and throw him onto the plot of ground, according to the Word of the Lord.”

They not only killed Naboth, but his sons as well so there would be no one left for that inheritance and to carry it down. They destroyed the family!

1-Kings 21:14: “And they sent to Jezebel, saying, ‘Naboth is stoned and is dead.’ Now, it came to pass when Jezebel heard that Naboth was stoned and was dead, Jezebel said to Ahab, ‘Arise, take possession of the vineyard of Naboth of Jezreel,

which he refused to give you for silver, for Naboth is not alive, but dead.’ And it came to pass when Ahab heard that Naboth was dead, Ahab rose up to go down to the vineyard of Naboth of Jezreel to take possession of it” (vs 14-16).

We see that Jezebel had the plan, she thought it up, as it says in the Proverbs the things that God hates, she *devised a plan in her mind* and then *her hand* wrote the letter and *the feet* of these two men that she hired out carried it out.

Elijah then pronounces what’s going to happen to Ahab and Jezebel because of this. Nothing is hidden from God and His eyes. He see all that is going on.

Verse 17: “And the Word of the Lord came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying, ‘Arise, go down to meet Ahab the king of Israel in Samaria. Behold, *he is* in the vineyard of Naboth where he has gone to possess it. And you shall speak to him, saying, ‘Thus says the LORD, ‘Have you killed and also taken possession?’” And you shall speak to him saying, “Thus says the LORD... [this is the prophecy]: ...‘In the place where the dogs licked the blood of Naboth, dogs shall lick your blood, even yours.’” And Ahab said to Elijah, ‘Have you found me, O my enemy?’...” (vs 17-20).

We have seen what happens when two prophets of God tell the leaders what’s going to *happen and what they should do—repent* and change—but they blame them. They don’t want to change and repent and change their lives, but the leaders blame those whom God sent to warn them.

“...And he answered, ‘I have found *you* because you have sold yourself to work evil in the sight of the LORD.” *To do this evil thing and have an innocent man killed and take away his lively possessions that came down from the family that God had given them when they divided the land and each had their portion!*

Verse 21—God says: “Behold, I will bring evil upon you and will utterly sweep you away, and will cut off from Ahab him who pisses against the wall, both bond and free in Israel.” *So, Ahab’s male descendants will be cutoff because of what Ahab has done, just as he cutoff and Naboth’s sons!*

Verse 22: “‘And I will make your house like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and like the house of Baasha the son of Ahijah, for the provocation with which you have provoked *Me* to anger, and made Israel to sin.’ And the LORD also spoke of Jezebel saying, ‘The dogs shall eat Jezebel by the wall of Jezreel. He who dies of Ahab in the city, the dogs shall eat. And he who dies in the field, the birds of the air shall eat.’ But there was none like Ahab, who sold himself to work wickedness in the

sight of the LORD, whom Jezebel his wife stirred up. And he did very abominably in following idols, according to all that the Amorites did, whom the LORD cast out before the children of Israel” (vs 22-26).

Elijah tells Ahab what will happen. You can read that yourself in the following chapters, I’ll just hit the highpoints.

Ahab was eventually repented, and because of that, God didn’t kill him right away, but was killed later in battle. Jezebel reigned for about ten years according to a commentary that I was reading, and her sons—Ahaziah and Jehoram—reigned. So, ten years after Ahab’s death, she was still alive. We know that Elijah’s prophecy comes to pass regarding Jezebel.

2-Kings 9:22: “And it came to pass when Joram saw Jehu...”—the one God uses to carry out the prophecy that Elijah had told Ahab what was going to happen to him and Jezebel.

“...he said, ‘*Is it peace, Jehu?*’ And he answered, ‘What peace, so long as the harlotries of your mother Jezebel and her witchcrafts *are so many?*’ And Joram turned his hands and fled and said to Ahaziah, ‘Treachery, Ahaziah!’” (vs 22-23). *The King of Judah had been aligned with him in some battles.*

Verse 24: “And Jehu drew a bow and struck Joram between his arms, and the arrow went through his heart, and he sank down in his chariot. And he said to Bidkar his commander, ‘Take him up *and* throw him in the portion of the field of Naboth of Jezreel; for, remember, you and I rode together after Ahab his father, and the LORD laid this burden upon him: ‘Surely, yesterday I have seen the blood of Naboth and the blood of his sons,’ says the LORD, ‘and I will repay you in this plot of ground,’ says the LORD. And now, take *him* and throw him onto the plot of ground, according to the Word of the Lord” (vs 24-26).

Verse 27: “And when Ahaziah the king of Judah saw, *he* fled by the way of the garden house. And Jehu followed after him and said, ‘Strike him also in the chariot, at the going up to Gur that *is near* Ibleam.’ And *he* fled to Megiddo and died there. And his servants carried him in a chariot to Jerusalem, and buried him in his tomb with his fathers in the city of David. And in the eleventh year of Joram the son of Ahab, Ahaziah began to reign over Judah. And Jehu had come to Jezreel. And Jezebel heard *this*, and had painted her face and adorned her head, and looked out at a window” (vs 27-30).

So, she painted and powdered herself up in her queenly attire and was looking out the window

when Jehu came into town.

Verse 31: “And Jehu came to the gate. And she said, ‘*Was there* peace to Zimri, the slayer of his lord?’ And he lifted up his face to the window, and said, ‘Who *is* with me? Who?’ And two *or* three officers looked out at him. And he said, ‘Throw her down!’ And they threw her down.... [and were happy to do so, she was such a wicked person] ...And *some* of her blood was sprinkled on the wall and on the horses. And he trampled her. And when he had come in, he ate and drank, and said, ‘Go, now see this cursed *woman* and bury her, for she is a king’s daughter.’ And they went to bury her, but they found no more of her than the skull and the feet and the palms of *her* hands” (vs 31-35).

God says that those who think in the mind to do evil, and their hands plan it—write letters or whatever means—and the feet run to see that it’s done; only the skull, fee and hands were left. There was nothing to bury; there was nothing to say that this was her tomb. She had no remembrance where people could go and worship her, because she and her husband Ahab did all these wicked things, following witchcraft and all these other gods, that God says that ‘you don’t inquire about their gods, we don’t seek after them.’

*He is God! He is our God and our Creator!* He wants our worship and our attention and love. So, we see what happened to her. It came to pass, just as was prophesied by Elijah what would happen to Ahab, exactly as God said, that the dogs would eat her and they did!

### **King Saul:**

Now, Saul and the things he did concerning David. David had done nothing to Saul, but Saul was jealous because his sins.

- Do we want to admit our sins if we recognize them?

or

- Do we want to blame them on someone else?

*That’s what Saul was doing!*

Saul devised plans. He tried to kill David many times, yet, David had an opportunity to kill Saul at least twice and he didn’t! David’s heart and mind was that Saul was the King of Israel and ‘how can I lay my hands on him.’

Once in a cave David had an opportunity, and another time when God caused this deep sleep and he had come up on Saul and his commander and they were able to take a cruse of water to show that they had been there and they didn’t harm him.

Saul’s *mind was evil and his hands and*

*feet*, but God did not allow David to be killed. Eventually, we know that Saul was killed. David was foretold by God to become the King of Israel, and he was. Judah first and then over all the 12 tribes.

### **David & Bathsheba:**

I would like to go over the story of David and Bathsheba. There have been many, many sermons given about David and Bathsheba. Evidently, it had been a time in David’s life when everything was going good. There was peace. Joab was his commander, and also his nephew by one of David’s sisters. They went into a lot of battles, but they were beginning to have peace.

David was king and he may not have been as close to God as he had at other times—because he was crying out to God in all the Psalms that we can read where David cries out, help me, protect me, chase my enemies—or else he would have allowed himself to get in the situation that he did.

2-Samuel 11:1: “And it came to pass at the turn of the year, at the time kings go forth *to war*, David sent Joab, and his servants with him, and all Israel. And they destroyed the children of Ammon and circled Rabbah. But David remained at Jerusalem. And it came to pass one evening, David arose from his bed and walked upon the roof of the king’s house. And from the roof *he saw* a woman bathing. And the woman *was* very beautiful to look upon. And David sent and asked about the woman. And *one* said, ‘Is not this Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite?’” (vs 1-3).

Eliam was an important man, too. I think he was in high position in the army. Uriah was certainly one of the mighty men of David’s army.

Verse 4: “And David sent messengers and took her. And she came in to him and he lay with her. And when she had purified herself from her uncleanness, she returned to her house. And the woman conceived, and sent and told David, and said, ‘*I am* with child.’” (vs 4-5).

What a shock that was; now they’ve got a situation. David had sex with one of his great commander’s wife, and she is pregnant. So, David is in a fix!

Verse 6: “And David sent to Joab, *saying*, ‘Send me Uriah the Hittite.’ And Joab sent Uriah to David. And when Uriah had come to him, David asked how Joab did, and how the people did, and how the war went. And David said to Uriah, ‘Go down to your house and wash your feet.’ And Uriah left the king’s house. And a gift from the king went out after him” (vs 6-8). *So, David gave Uriah a gift and sent him home!*

Verse 9: “But Uriah slept at the door of the king’s house with all the servants of his lord and did not go down to his house. And they told David, saying, ‘Uriah did not go to his house.’ And David said to Uriah, ‘Did you not come from a journey? Why have you not gone down to your house?’” (vs 9-10).

He had been out fighting in the wars and everything, he should have gone home to his wife. Maybe he thought something was up, or maybe he didn’t. His heart was so loyal to David that he never really knew.

Verse 11: “And Uriah said to David, ‘The Ark and Israel and Judah abide in tents. And my lord Joab, and the servants of my lord, are camped in the open fields. Shall I then go to my house to eat and to drink and to lie with my wife? *As you live, and as your soul lives, I will not do this thing.*’”

He’s saying that they’re out there fighting, living in tents and it’s cold and miserable. They were having it rough, so he wasn’t going to go to his house.

Verse 12: “And David said to Uriah, ‘Stay here today also, and tomorrow I will let you go.’ And Uriah stayed in Jerusalem that day and the next day. And when David had called him, he ate and drank before him. And he made him drunk. And at evening he went out to lie on his bed with the servants of his lord, but he did not go down to his house” (vs 12-13).

God probably did have something to do with this and put it in Uriah’s mind not go to his house, because He knew what David was trying to do here.

### ***He was trying to cover his sin!***

- God knows our sins
- God knows what we do
- God knows how we think

Maybe God intervened there, and Uriah did not go! When David had called him, he made him eat and drink.

Verse 14: “And it came to pass in the morning, David wrote a letter to Joab and sent *it* by the hand of Uriah. And he wrote in the letter, saying, ‘Set Uriah in the forefront of the hottest battle, and draw back from him so that he may be stricken and die.’” (vs 14-15). *In other words, everybody retreat and just leave a few there and they’re going to be able to kill Uriah.*

Verse 16: “And it came to pass when Joab observed the city, he sent Uriah to a place where he knew brave men *were*. And the men of the city went out and fought with Joab. And *some* of the people of the servants of David fell. And Uriah the Hittite also died. Then Joab sent and told David all the things

concerning the war. And *he* commanded the messenger saying, 'When you have made an end of telling the matters of the war to the king, and if it be so that the king's wrath arise, and he say to you, "Why did you approach so near to the city when you fought? Did you not know that they would shoot from the wall?"'" (vs 16-20). *This is what Joab is telling the messenger to tell David!*

Verse 21: "Who struck Abimelech the son of Jerubbesheth? Did not a woman cast a piece of a millstone upon him from the wall so that he died in Thebez? Why did you go near the wall?" And you shall say, "Your servant Uriah the Hittite is dead also.""

Joab is saying that if he answers some of these things, then just say that Uriah the Hittite is dead also. So, the plan was carried out.

I'm sure a lot of the people were thinking, the servants who knew David, that he had sent for Bathsheba and she came over and left, and they knew what was going on there at the king's palace where David lived.

Verse 22: "And the messenger departed, and came and told David all that Joab had sent him to tell. And the messenger said to David, 'Surely the men prevailed against us and came out to us to the field, and we were upon them even to the entering of the gate. And the shooters shot from off the wall upon your servants, and *some* of the king's servants are dead, and your servant Uriah the Hittite is dead also.' Then David said to the messenger, 'So you shall say to Joab, "Do not let this thing displease you, for the sword devours one as well as another. Make your battle stronger against the city and overthrow it. And you encourage him.'"'" (vs 22-25).

The plan was carried out, v 26: "And the wife of Uriah heard that Uriah her husband was dead, and mourned for her husband."

She put on the mourning garb, the black dress and veil, whatever it was at that period of time. But you can imagine what she and David thought about the plot that they had and what they had done and killed an innocent man; someone who was loyal to David and Israel. ***An innocent man had died because of sin! Because of lust!***

Verse 27: "And when her mourning was past, David sent and brought her to his house, and she became his wife and bore him a son. **But the thing that David had done was evil in the eyes of the LORD.**"

We see that with the head when David found out that she was pregnant and he began to devise a plan. 'I'll get Uriah and bring him back and he'll spend the night with his wife and so what, the child might come a month early; those things happen.'

But God knew what was going on and didn't allow it to take place. So, the plan was ***devised in the head***. Then ***with the hand he wrote the letter condemning Uriah to be killed!*** By a messenger—***the feet***—sent the letter to Uriah, and he was so faithful that he didn't even open it and read it. If he had, he would have known that David was planning to kill him.

We see the head in action, the thinking and planning. We see the hands that wrote the letter, and used the feet of Uriah and sent the letter that had him killed. We see why God says that He hates six, even seven things. In there are several things besides ***the head, feet and hands!***

### **Judas Iscariot:**

Let's look into Judas, one of Christ's disciples who had been with Christ for three and half years and been personally taught and seen all of these things and all the miracles. He began to have a wrong spirit within him, and later we'll see that Satan entered into him.

John 13:6: "Then He came to Simon Peter; and he said to Him, 'Lord, are You going to wash my feet?' Jesus answered and said to him, 'What I am doing you do not understand now, but you shall know after these things.' Peter said to Him, 'You shall not wash my feet, not ever.' Jesus answered him, 'If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me.' Simon Peter said to Him, 'Lord, not my feet only, but also *my hands and my head*.' Jesus said to him, 'The one who has been washed does not need to wash *anything other* than the feet, but is completely clean; and you are clean, but not all.' For He knew the one who was betraying Him; this was the reason He said, 'Not all of you are clean.'" (vs 6-11).

Verse 12: "Therefore, when He had washed their feet, and had taken His garments, *and* had sat down again, He said to them, 'Do you know what I have done to you? You call Me the Teacher and the Lord, and you speak rightly, because I am. Therefore, if I, the Lord and the Teacher, have washed your feet, you also are duty-bound to wash one another's feet'" (vs 12-14).

Christ was giving an example. He was God in the flesh Who came to give His life and He came as a servant. Not to be serve, ***but to serve!*** I'm sure that Peter wondered... 'You can't wash my feet, that's a servant's job.' But then Peter mentioned his head and his hands. Did he understand about Prov. 6? Or was he thinking about some kind of the washings that the scribes and the Pharisees did in purification things?

*The New Illustrated Bible Dictionary* by

Ronald F. Youngblood. It talks about.

Ablution—ceremonial washing of one’s body, vessels, and clothing for the purpose of religious purification. This word is not found in the NKJV, but it occurs in Hebrews 6:2 and 9:10 in the RSV. In both places the Greek word is *baptismos* (literally, “dipping”), which can be translated “washings” (Heb. 9:10).

By the New Testament times, ceremonial washings became almost an end in themselves. The Pharisees were preoccupied with ritual purifications (Matt. 15:2; Mrk 7:4), Jesus exhorted the scribes and Pharisees to “cleanse the inside of the cup and dish”—that is, cleanse their hearts and spirits—and not just wash the outside by religious rituals. Moral filth cannot be washed away with physical cleansing agents (Jer. 2:22; Isa. 1:16). Jesus Christ is to be praised, for He “loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood” (Rev. 1:5; Rev. 7:14).

Jeremiah 2:22: “‘For though you wash yourself with potash... [ashes, like lye soap that would almost take off the skin] ...and multiply soap for yourself, yet, your iniquity is marked before Me,’ declares the Lord GOD.”

We can’t wash ourselves through physical washing and bathing. We can get the body clean, but it’s going to get dirty again. What Christ was talking about here in John 13 was something much more deep and spiritual than that. He was telling the scribes and Pharisees, ‘*You clean up the inside; you’re like a sepulchre where old dead men’s bones are found. You want to look good on the outside, but on the inside you’re filled with evil! Your mind, your hands, feet and heart do all these wicked things!*’

John 13:10: “Jesus said to him, ‘The one who has been washed does not need to wash anything other than the feet, but is completely clean; and you are clean, but not all.’”

Jesus knew that there was one among them that was not clean. His mind/thinking was not right! We know that Judas was called a thief; he had the money bag and he carried that—a treasurer so to speak—and he had evil plans that he thought up. He turned against Christ because his love for physical things was more than the love of Christ and things that Christ was opening up to him.

He was the only one, and it was prophesied that this would happen; that “a friend” of His would turn against Him.

Did Peter understand about the spiritual aspect of this, or was he just thinking of a ceremonial cleansing? *We don’t know for sure!* We know that all the things that Christ had told them and taught them over those three and half years was all written in books, that there would not be enough books to contain them. All the teachings and things that He taught and gone over: all the Psalms, Prov., Moses and prophecies.

What really cleanses us? John 15:3: “You are already clean **through the word that I have spoken to you.**”

*It’s only through the Word of God and His Holy Spirit that we can be clean!* That we can clean up our mind and heart—our hands and our feet—instead of thinking and doing evil and run to do evil. ***We have to have the Word of God to do that!***

Christ knew that there was one there—Judas—who would betray Him. The mind thinks up the plan.

Luke 22:1: “Now, the Feast of Unleavened Bread, which is called Passover, was approaching; and the chief priests and the scribes were speculating as to how they might put Him to death, for they feared the people. Then Satan entered into Judas, who was surnamed Iscariot, being of the number of the twelve” (vs 1-3).

Satan had been working with Judas, influencing him, yet, his mind was so that Satan could. Do we, at times? We know that David was at a low ebb and wasn’t as close to God as he should be, so his wrong thinking got him into trouble and did. God said that after that he would always have war. And he did; his life was miserable the rest of his life, because of this thing that was ever before him (Psa. 51). ‘Cleanse him, wash him, scrub him really good and make him white as snow.’ Not just his outside, but his mind and heart.

Verse 4: “And he went away, and spoke with the chief priests and the captains about a way by which he might betray Him to them.... [here was the plot; the mind engaging in a plan of action] ...And they rejoiced, and agreed to give him money. And he promised, and sought an opportunity to betray Him to them away from the multitude” (vs 4-6).

If had happened within the multitude, they were afraid before of the multitude, that they would try to do something to Him. They wanted to get in a place where the multitude would not be around and they could carry out their plan.

Verse 47: “And while He was still speaking, a crowd suddenly appeared... [here they all came against Christ to seize Him] ...with the one who was called Judas, one of the twelve, going in front of

them; and he came near to Jesus to kiss Him. But Jesus said to him, ‘Judas, are you betraying the Son of man with a kiss?’” (vs 47-48). *Then Judas commits the act of betrayal!*

When he went up to Christ, with his hands Judas embraced him and kissed him on the cheek, the custom at that time. So, *his feet had run to shed innocent blood*. Again, we see *the head, which thought up the plan*; his *hands probably grabbed Christ* and greeted Him, so they would know exactly who to grab a hold of. *His feet no longer walked with Christ!* He walked against Christ, and that’s what we have to be aware of, that our feet always walk in the ways of God! That we don’t walk in the way of evil!

We know that we fall short and sometimes we’re up and down and do things, but that’s where God has repentance. If we’re truly repentant and sorry... We know that Ahab repented, and God didn’t kill him right then, but waited a while longer, happening in the days of his sons. So, if we truly repent and turn to God, then God will forgive us. But we’re going to have the penalties just as David did all the rest of his life because of the act of sin!

God said that the only thing that he held against David was the sin of Uriah the Hittite<sup>[transcriber’s correction]</sup>. That’s what these things do; it’s a reflection upon God.

As it says about an elder, ‘he must have a good report without, in the community where we live and work. And we also must have a good report within the churches where we serve. We have a great responsibility, all of us! All of us are being trained for the same inheritance, to be sons and daughters in the very Kingdom and Family of God.

The things that we’re teaching, as Paul said, is to help others. If we have to sacrifice in helping others, then that’s right and good; that’s the way it should be. We want *everyone* to ‘grow up to the stature and fullness of Christ.’ These are things we all fight. As long as we’re human, in this body and nature, we fight the things that come into the mind, things that we’re going to do with the hands and feet. These are things that we have to overcome and we can by God’s Holy Spirit that lives in us.

We can see that can happen to any of us who slacks off from walking with God. Our human spirit, this human nature, if we allow it to lead us and guide us in the Spirit of God.

Romans 3:10: “Exactly as it is written: ‘For there is not a righteous one—not even one!’”

We’re on our way to work and develop righteousness with the help of God and His Holy Spirit to overcome the flesh and the deeds of the flesh.

Verse 11: “There is not one who understands; there is not one who seeks after God.” Truly, God has to call us and open our mind. He called us first and got our attention; we weren’t searching after Him. If we were, then God’s Spirit was working with us and our mind to seek toward Him, but on our own we weren’t just out seeking after God, we were out doing the things we wanted to do with this human nature and the things of the flesh.

Verse 12: “They have all gone out of the way; together they have *all* become depraved. There is not *even* one who is practicing kindness. No, there is not so much as one! Their throats *are* like an open grave; with their tongues they have used deceit; *the* venom of asps *is* under their lips, whose mouths are full of cursing and bitterness; their feet *are* swift to shed blood; destruction and misery *are* in their ways; and *the* way of peace they have not known. There is no fear of God before their eyes” (vs 12-18)—*unless God has called us, granted us repentance and baptism and received His Holy Spirit! Then we begin to seek after God, and hopefully we stay the course! Stay on that path!*

Man without God’s Spirit cannot please God, and he doesn’t have the guidance that he needs, and the results of the calamities that we see in our lives. How do we control our mind, our hands and our feet so that we follow righteousness? And not lawlessness?

Ephesians 1:15: “For this cause, I also, after hearing of the faith in the Lord Jesus that is among you, and the love toward all the saints, do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers; that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you *the* spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him” (vs 15-17). *That’s where it’s at, the knowledge of God!*

Verse 18: “*And* may the eyes of your mind be enlightened in order that you may comprehend what is the hope of His calling, and what *are* the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the inner working of His mighty power, which He wrought in Christ, when He raised Him from *the* dead, and set Him at His right hand in the heavenly *places*, far above every principality and authority and power and lordship, and every name that is named—not only in this age, but also in the *age* to come; for He has subordinated all things under His feet, and has given Him *to be* head over all things to the *Church*, which is His body—the fullness of Him Who fills all things in all” (vs 18-23).

So, Christ is the Head, the Head of the Church, the Body! That’s where the hands and the

feet are, with the rest of the Body.

### **Functions of the Hands:**

1-Corinthians 12:18: "But now has God Himself placed each one of the *members* in the body according to His own will. For if all were one member, where *would* the body *be*? But now *are there* many members, yet, *they are* one body. And *the* eye is not able to say to the hand, 'I have no need of you.' Or again, the head *is not able to say* to the feet, 'I have no need of you'" (vs 18-21).

So, the head, the mind, that controls the hands and feet; it takes the whole body! They have to be in control by the mind with the Spirit of God.

Verse 22: "But much to the contrary, the members of the body that appear to be weaker are necessary."

All parts are necessary; whatever function you are in the Body of Christ, then you're part of the function. God is working with all of us so that we can be a part of the total Body, the Church, that will live forever in God's Kingdom and be the very Lamb's wife, those who are the firstfruits.

We see that the hand is necessary, the eye that sees, and the feet, the whole body is necessary.

### **Function of the Feet:**

Hebrews 12:12: "Therefore, lift up the hands that are hanging down, and *revive* the weakened knees; and make **straight paths for your feet**, lest that which *is* lame be turned aside; but let it rather be healed. Pursue peace with everyone, and Holiness, without which no one will see the Lord... [our mind has to be peaceful, not running to do evil and all the things of the flesh] ...looking diligently, lest anyone fall from the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness... [that's what happened to Judas] ...springing up trouble *you*, and through this many be defiled" (vs 12-15).

How should we use the feet? Romans 10:15: And how shall they preach, unless they be sent? Accordingly, it is written, '**How beautiful are the feet of those who announce the Gospel of Peace**, and those who announce the good news of good things!'"

The feet are to be used to bring peace and proclaim peace, the coming Kingdom of God, the good news of the things to come.

Ephesians 6:13: "Therefore, take up the whole armor of God so that you may be able to resist in the evil day, and having worked out all things, to stand. Stand, therefore, having your loins girded about with Truth, and wearing the breastplate of righteousness, and **having your feet shod** with *the*

preparation of the Gospel of Peace" (vs 13-15).

Feet that run to preach the Gospel and do good for others, to help others as God is preparing them and us for His great kingdom.

1-Thessalonians 5:14: "Now we encourage you, brethren, *to* admonish those who are irresponsible, console the fainthearted, support the weak, be patient toward everyone. See that no one renders evil for evil to anyone; but always be pursuing what is good, both toward one another and toward all *men*. Rejoice always! Pray unceasingly" (vs 14-17).

Always be in a state of prayer! We can do that all day long; we don't have to be on our knees, we can be about doing whatever we're doing, and we thank God and praise Him for different things throughout the day. We should spend times on our knees praying and studying His Word, but to be in that attitude of prayer all the time.

Verse 18: "Give thanks in everything, for this *is the* will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. Quench not the Spirit. Despise not prophecies. Prove all things. Hold fast *to that which* is good" (vs 18-21).

We never want to go or let down. We've always got to keep God's Spirit active within us. We do that through prayer and study.

Verse 22: "Abstain from every form of wickedness." That's where the mind comes in with God's Spirit, showing us that when evil thoughts comes in we immediately put them out. We don't dwell on them and get in a state like David did where Satan is allowed to come in.

Verse 23: "Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you... [set you apart] ...wholly; and may your entire spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Isaiah 1:16: "Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean; put away the evil of your doings from before My eyes; cease to do evil."

That's what we need to do, ***clean up our mind, the inside!*** We take care of the outside, wash and bathe, but the inside is what God is concerned with:

- What are our thoughts?
- What are our ways?
- What are our intentions?
- Do we really want to serve God and love Him?
- Do we really want to help one another?
- Do we pray for one another?



*I’m sure that we do, but we certainly can do more!*

***Wash yourselves and make yourselves clean on the inside,*** as Christ said.

Psalm 119:105: “Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.” *We need to have God’s Word as a lamp to direct our feet, how they should go, how we should walk! Always walking in God’s way, in the Truth, in His love and mercy!*

By the Word of God, by reading and studying, by applying God’s Word and by His Holy Spirit living in us and keeping it active, ***we can keep our mind washed so that our hands and feet learn to do good and not evil!***

#### Scriptural References:

- 1) John 13:3-9
- 2) Proverbs 6:16-19
- 3) 1 Kings 6:30-33
- 4) 1 Kings 21:1-13
- 5) 2 Kings 9:26
- 6) 1 Kings 21:14-26
- 7) 2 Kings 9:22-35
- 8) 2 Samuel 11:1-27
- 9) John 13:6-14
- 10) Jeremiah 2:22
- 11) John 13:10
- 12) John 15:3
- 13) Luke 22:1-4, 47-48
- 14) Romans 3:10-18
- 15) Ephesians 1:15-23
- 16) 1 Corinthians 12:18-22
- 17) Hebrews 12:12-15
- 18) Romans 10:15
- 19) Ephesians 6:13-15
- 20) 1 Thessalonians 5:14-23
- 21) Isaiah 1:16
- 22) Psalm 119:105

Scripture referenced, not quoted: Psalm 51

Also referenced: Book: *The New Illustrated Bible Dictionary* by Ronald F. Youngblood

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