



WASH ME

John 13:8

Peter saith unto him, Thou shalt never wash my feet. Jesus answered him, If I wash thee not, thou hast no part with me.

Wash—Cleanse with water, to take away.

During the time Jesus' walked upon the earth there were no knives or forks used at the table, washing of the hands before and after meals was necessary. Because of the dust and heat of the Eastern climate, washing of the feet on entering a house was an act of respect to the company, and of refreshment to the traveler.

Washing guests feet was a job for a household servant when guests arrived, but Jesus gave an example of a servant to his disciples as He washed their feet. Jesus washing the disciples feet was two-fold. First, washing the disciples feet was a slave's tasks, so Jesus washed His disciples feet out of humility, and to teach them the principle of servant leadership. That's what leadership is about, it's the serving of others. Secondly, foot washing symbolized cleansing.

Jesus came to wash away our sins through the shedding of His blood and to be an example to us of what a son (daughter) should be. Attending church does not cleanse us from our sins. Excepting and believing that Jesus is the Son of God will validate us as children of God. There is no other name that one can be saved by.

Acts 4:12

Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

Once we believe, then there is a work we must do to become disciples of Jesus Christ.

Matthew 16:24

Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.

We have to do more than just believe that Jesus is the Son of God, the devils believe that there is one God according to James 1:19, but they don't follow God's instructions although they believe. When we have been washed there will be a changed in our spirit as well as our souls and it will not be hard for us to deny ourselves and reject sin in our lives.

Peter was a disciple of Jesus, he had seen and heard the teachings of Jesus. Peter was with Jesus on the mountain of transfiguration. Peter was with Jesus when He healed Jarius' daughter. Peter was with Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane prior to Jesus' death, but when things got too hot for Peter, Peter denied he knew Jesus. Rather than standing up for what he believed, and not caring about what would happen to him as a disciple of Jesus, he lied and denied. That's why prior to Jesus death at the Last Supper, Jesus instructed Peter that

He had prayed for him because Jesus knew Peter better than Peter knew himself.

Luke 22:32

But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.

As Christians we categorize sin such as adultery and fornication, but fear is just as much a sin. Fear is the opposite of faith and without faith we cannot please God. When we have truly been washed we don't fear what people say about us as Christians, we don't fear rejection and persecution because believe it or not that's one of the benefits we receive as Christians because it will work together for our good to produce the Fruit of Spirit.

Jesus knew Peter was going to deny Him, that's why Jesus prayed Peter's faith would not fail him in the time of Peter's trials and tribulations.

When you're going through a trial or tribulation, you can't fear. You must know the one that allowed the trial or tribulation to be there for you, He's the one that will never leave or forsake you. It's not denying the fact of what you're going through, but to know while you're going through, you will know where your help comes from. You will know that God will bring you out of whatever you're going through with the victory!

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When Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were thrown in the fiery furnace, they didn't worry about the flames, they informed King Nebuchadnezzar about the God they served.

Daniel 3:17

If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O'King.

Just as they knew who their God was, we too must know whatever we may be going through, God is Greater than what's going on with us or in us!

When we have been washed (born of the Spirit of God) we receive a portion of God's Spirit within us. He comes in and changes our nature.

2nd Corinthians 5:17

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold all things are become new.

If we still have the desires we had prior to our salvation, then we have not been washed. Our desires change, our thinking change, our attitude and our character change when we have really been washed. God doesn't change, but He changes us in order for us to have fellowship with Him.

A good way to know, if we have really been washed is to ask ourselves and be truthful, do we still take on the world's nature. Do we still love the things of the world?

1st John 2:15

Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

The love of the Father, is the Spirit of God dwelling in our human body. God is love and if His Spirit is dwelling in us, we too, will take on the same love He has and it will not be of the world. Christian brothers and sisters we cannot be part-takers of the world and think we will have fellowship with the Father.

Thank God, He's not a disciplinarian as He was in the Old Testament. The reason Adam lost his fellowship with Him was because of disobedience. Some of the children of Israel didn't enter into the promise land because of fear. God destroyed nations because of their idolatry. We don't bow to wooden status, but sometimes we place our spouse, children and ourselves before God by giving them our time, but never taking the time to spend with God. Many Christians don't pick up their Bible until Sunday morning when they are on their way to Church. Others don't pick it up until they have gotten in a situation and they are trying to find a scripture to help them. The church is a gathering place for the believers to come and worship God together. God wants us to fellowship with Him everyday, not just on Sunday. Fellowship with Him through the week gets us prepared to enter into His presence on Sunday with praise.

The reason why many times we can't usher the Spirit of God in our church is because we haven't fellowshiped with Him all week, sometimes months and years! When the presence of the Lord is in the place, people will be healed and no one has to lay hands on them. The presence of God in a church will manifest the gifts of the Spirit whereas the people of God will be blessed.

Anytime the presence of God is on the scene, lives will be changed because the gifts of the Spirit will be in operation to bring forth a change in the lives of God's people.

We have to get out of the way of our program and begin to let God come in. God is not a God of a set time, but He is time, and sometimes we have to wait on Him to make His entrance. In the meantime while we're waiting; we're in oneness in praise to usher His Spirit, but if we have not been washed or haven't fellowshiped with Him, many times when others are feeling His presence, we can't feel His presence, because we have not become one with Him and His Son.

Spiritual maturity is a process, it doesn't come overnight. Your faith will be tested. Sad to say, many Christians have faith as long as every thing is going well, but when your faith is tested, many of us lose faith. If we never had a trial or a test, our faith would never be tested nor would we grow in spiritual maturity. Test and tribulations assist us in getting to know God for who He is and not by what someone told us about Him.

When we're washed, humility comes in us, we don't mind stepping back and allowing someone else to get the praise. We don't mind serving others whether it's in our home or in our church. To be a servant is to become like Christ. A servant is also putting up with other people failures and praying for them until Christ is formed in them. It's telling them about their sins, but it's not spiritually abusing or discriminating them. With loving kindness will we draw them and they will receive the word of God when we do it in love.

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We all need to be washed again until we have been clothed in God's righteousness, in His Son's humility, in God's wisdom and knowledge and most of all God's love. Let's be truthful to ourselves as the Bible has instructed us to be, and to know we need to be washed. We need more prayer, and fasting to come up to part in our spiritual walk with the Lord.

Let's take time and concentrate on Jesus when we're saying, doing and going places, we know we shouldn't be there as Christians. We need to recognize, would we do it, if Jesus was literally standing before us?

Proverbs 15:3

The eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good.

If we would really be mindful of God and His Son, as Christians, we wouldn't do, say or go to certain places. If we are mindful of Him, that means we have fellowshiped with Him and we no longer desire the things we use to desire because God has washed us (placed His spirit in us) and we have become His new creature, one that honors and submits themselves to Him by being a living sacrifice. A sacrifice is not our will, but the will of others. If we're going to sacrifice for anyone, God should be the first one.

After Peter was converted (returned to the teaching of Jesus) He no longer feared people because he knew fear has torment.

1 John 4:18

There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.

As Christians, we have to be like a soldier, we can't fear our adversary, we can't fear people nor can we be people pleasers.

People pleasers are sending people to Hell because they teach, you can do what you want and still be saved, but the Bible teaches a different doctrine, that's why the Bible teaches us to try the Spirit by the Spirit to see if it is of God.

1 st John 4:1

Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.

Everyone preaching and teaching behind a pulpit has not been called or ordained by God. People are teaching and preaching to make their congregation feel good and not teaching them the principles of living a lifestyle that will give you fellowship with the Father or to look into their soulful realm to see what's the hinderance in their spiritual growth. Jesus is on His way back and if the Spirit of God that raised Jesus from the dead is not living inside of us, then we will not be able to enter into the kingdom of God. We will not be able to meet Him in the sky for the rapture!

If the Spirit of the Living God is dwelling in you, you will have fellowship with God on a daily basis, no one will have to ask you to pray, fast or read your bible. When you have fellowship with the Father, you want to be in His presence. The more you are around Him the more you want to be around Him. How can you say you love someone and you never take the time to be with them!

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