


Day 1

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today's study.

The Unbelief of the People

^{36b} When he had finished speaking, Jesus left and hid himself from them.

Q1. Why did Jesus hide from them?

Q2. Scripture states, "Jesus left and hid himself from them"; who is "them"? Are they followers, religious leaders, citizens, or another group(s)?

³⁷ Even after Jesus had done all these miraculous signs in their presence, they still would not believe in him.

Q3. What were the "many signs"?


Q4. Why did they "still ... not believe in him"?

³⁸ This was to fulfill the word of Isaiah the prophet: "Lord, who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?"

Q5. Why is this important: "to fulfill the word of Isaiah the prophet"?

Lesson 18: John 12:36^b-50 & 13:1-17


Q6. What is the “arm of the Lord”?

 “To whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?”

“The phrase was used, as in Isaiah 51:9; Isaiah 52:10, to express the power of the Lord, and here refers especially to the power of the Lord manifested in the whole life of Christ. The signs which were revelations of this power are, of course, prominent in the thought, and the question strongly expresses the negative of the previous verse [37].” [©about 1880, *Ellicott's Commentary for English Readers*, edited by Charles J Ellicott. <https://biblehub.com/commentaries/john/12-38.htm>]

Q7. “To whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed”?

Day 2

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³⁹ For this reason they could not believe, because, as Isaiah says elsewhere:
⁴⁰ "He has blinded their eyes and deadened their hearts, so they can neither see with their eyes, nor understand with their hearts, nor turn -- and I would heal them."

Q8. Why did God “blind . . . their eyes and deaden . . . their hearts”? Doesn’t God want all people to live eternally with Him?

Matthew 13:10-12

¹⁰ The disciples came to him and asked, "Why do you speak to the people in parables?" ¹¹ He replied, "The knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of heaven has been given to you, but not to them. ¹² Whoever has will be given more, and he will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him."

Lesson 18: John 12:36^b-50 & 13:1-17

1 John 2:11 [another perspective from John]

But whoever hates his brother is in the darkness and walks around in the darkness; he does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded him.

⁴¹ Isaiah said this because he saw Jesus' glory and spoke about him. ⁴² Yet at the same time many even among the leaders believed in him. But because of the Pharisees they would not confess their faith for fear they would be put out of the synagogue; ⁴³ for they loved praise from men more than praise from God.

Q9. (Verse 42) Scriptures states that "many even of the leaders believed in Him . . . they would not confess their faith." Were these people true Believers?

Matthew 10:32-33

³² "Whoever acknowledges me before men, I will also acknowledge him before my Father in heaven.

³³ But whoever disowns me before men, I will disown him before my Father in heaven.

Q10. Is it important to confess (or state) to others your belief in Christ Jesus?

Romans 10:9-10

⁹ That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.


Q11. What did Jesus teach insofar as obtaining praise from other people?

Matthew 6:2-4

² "So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. ³ But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴ so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

Lesson 18: John 12:36^b-50 & 13:1-17

Day 3

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Jesus Came to Save the World

⁴⁴ Then Jesus cried out, "When a man believes in me, he does not believe in me only, but in the one who sent me.

Q12. "Jesus cried out": What does this wording convey to you? A loud voice? Anguish? Something else?

Q13. Whoever "believes in me": What do they believe? (Jesus has not yet died on the cross.)

Matthew 10:40

"He who receives you receives me, and he who receives me receives the one who sent me.

Mark 9:37

"Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me."

Luke 9:48

Then he said to them, "Whoever welcomes this little child in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. For he who is least among you all -- he is the greatest."

John 13:20

I tell you the truth, whoever accepts anyone I send accepts me; and whoever accepts me accepts the one who sent me."

⁴⁵ When he looks at me, he sees the one who sent me.

Q14. Who sent Jesus?

Lesson 18: John 12:36^b-50 & 13:1-17

⁴⁶ I have come into the world as a light, so that no one who believes in me should stay in darkness.

Q15. The concept is repeated. What does the 'light' represent? And what does the 'darkness' represent?

Light?

Darkness?

⁴⁷ "As for the person who hears my words but does not keep them, I do not judge him. For I did not come to judge the world, but to save it.

Q16. To what kind of person is Jesus referring in His statement, "the person who hears my words but does not keep them"?

Q17. "Does not keep them": Is Jesus speaking of duties, commandments, and life lessons taught through His parables?

Q18. Jesus said, "I did not come to judge the world." Will Jesus ever judge people?

Q19. How does Jesus "save the world"?

⁴⁸ There is a judge for the one who rejects me and does not accept my words; that very word which I spoke will condemn him at the last day.

Q20. How can the "Word" judge?

Lesson 18: John 12:36^b-50 & 13:1-17

Q21. What does Jesus mean by the “last day”?

⁴⁹ For I did not speak of my own accord, but the Father who sent me commanded me what to say and how to say it.

Q22. What is the “commandment” that God had given Jesus?

^{50a} I know that his command leads to eternal life. ^{50b} So, whatever I say is just what the Father has told me to say."

Q23. How does this “commandment” give “eternal life”?

Q24. Looking at verse 50b, there are at least four truths packed into this ½-verse. What are they?

(1)


(2)

(3)

(4)

Lesson 18: John 12:36^b-50 & 13:1-17

Day 4

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John 13:1-17 (of 38 total verses in chapter 13)

Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet

¹ It was just before the Passover Feast. Jesus knew that the time had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he now showed them the full extent of his love.

Q25. To what does this refer: "Jesus knew that the time had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father"?

Q26. What does this mean: "he now showed them the full extent of his love"?

² The evening meal was being served, and the devil had already prompted Judas Iscariot, son of Simon, to betray Jesus.

Q27. Does the devil really exist? How would you explain your answer to a seeker of Jesus?

Yes? Why?

No?

Q28. How does (or how can) the devil affect anyone's heart?

Lesson 18: John 12:36^b-50 & 13:1-17

Q29. Who or what are demons?

Matthew 7:22-23

²² Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?'

²³ Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!'

Mark 1:32-34 [The Message (MSG)]

³²⁻³⁴ That evening, after the sun was down, they brought sick and evil-afflicted people to him, the whole city lined up at his door! He cured their sick bodies and tormented spirits. Because the demons knew his true identity, he didn't let them say a word.

Mark 1:39

And he went throughout all Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out demons.

Mark 5:15-16 [The Message (MSG)]

¹⁴⁻¹⁵ Those tending the pigs, scared to death, bolted, and told their story in town and country. Everyone wanted to see what had happened. They came up to Jesus and saw the madman sitting there wearing decent clothes and making sense, no longer a walking madhouse of a man.

¹⁶⁻¹⁷ Those who had seen it told the others what had happened to the demon-possessed man and the pigs. At first, they were in awe — and then they were upset, upset over the drowned pigs [the herd of pigs represented wealth]. They demanded that Jesus leave and not come back.

1 Timothy 4:1-2 [J.B. Phillips New Testament (PHILLIPS)]

¹⁻² God's Spirit specifically tells us that in later days there will be men who abandon the true faith and allow themselves to be spiritually seduced by teachings of the devil [or demons], teachings given by men who are lying hypocrites, whose consciences are as dead as seared flesh.

James 2:19-20 [The Message (MSG)]


¹⁹⁻²⁰ Do I hear you professing to believe in the one and only God, but then observe you complacently sitting back as if you had done something wonderful? That's just great. Demons do that, but what good does it do them? Use your heads! Do you suppose for a minute that you can cut faith and works in two and not end up with a corpse on your hands?

Revelation 9:20 [English Standard Version (ESV)]

The rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands nor give up worshipping demons and idols of gold and silver and bronze and stone and wood, which cannot see or hear or walk,

Lesson 18: John 12:36^b-50 & 13:1-17

Day 5

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³ Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God;

Q30. What does this mean: “the Father had put all things under his power”?


Q31. Did Jesus know throughout His life that he had come from God?

Q32. How do you think Jesus felt knowing that He was to return to God, His Father?

⁴ so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. ⁵ After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

Q33. What do we know of the customs of Jesus' day regarding washing of feet?

Q34. What did the washing of His disciples' feet signify?

 “Walking in sandals on the roads of Palestine in the first century made it imperative that feet be washed before a communal meal. People ate reclining at low tables, and feet were very much in evidence. When Jesus rose from the Last Supper and began to wash the feet of the disciples (John 13:4), He was doing the work of the lowliest of servants. The disciples must have been stunned at this act of humility and condescension — that Jesus, their Lord and Master, should wash the feet of His disciples. Washing feet was more properly their work, but no one had volunteered for the job. Jesus came to earth, not as King and Conqueror, but as the suffering Servant of Isaiah 53. As He revealed in

Lesson 18: John 12:36^b-50 & 13:1-17

Matthew 20:28, He came “not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” The humility expressed by Jesus’ act with towel and basin foreshadowed His ultimate act of humility and love on the cross.” [© Copyright 2002-2023 Got Questions Ministries. All rights reserved. <https://www.gotquestions.org/Jesus-washing-feet.html>]

⁶ He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?"

Q35. Why did Simon Peter ask that question of Jesus?


⁷ Jesus replied, "You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand."

Q36. Jesus replied to Simon’s question by saying “. . . but afterward you will understand”. To what future event was Jesus referring?

⁸ "No," said Peter, "you shall never wash my feet."

Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no part with me."

Q37. Why did Jesus say, “you have no part with me”?

 Jesus’ attitude was in direct contrast to that of the disciples, who had recently been arguing among themselves as to which of them was the greatest (Luke 22:24). There was no servant present in the upper room to wash their feet, and it never occurred to them to wash one another’s feet. When the Lord Himself stooped to this lowly task, they were stunned into silence. Peter was profoundly uncomfortable with the Lord washing his feet, and he protested: “You shall never wash my feet”. [© Copyright 2002-2023 Got Questions Ministries. All rights reserved. <https://www.gotquestions.org/Jesus-washing-feet.html>]


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⁹ "Then, Lord," Simon Peter replied, "not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!"

Q38. What is Simon Peter telling Jesus?

¹⁰ Jesus answered, "A person who has had a bath needs only to wash his feet; his whole body is clean. And you are clean, though not every one of you." ¹¹ For he knew who was going to betray him, and that was why he said not everyone was clean.

Q39. Jesus' use of the word "clean" seems to have two meanings. What are the meanings?

 So, Jesus' act of washing the disciples' feet illustrated their spiritual cleansing. Jesus is the One who forgives. Peter and the rest had experienced the full cleansing of salvation and did not need to be bathed again in the spiritual sense. Salvation is a one-time act of justification by faith. What follows is the lifelong process of sanctification: a daily washing away of the stain of sin. As we walk through the world, some of the world's spiritual filth will cling to us, and that needs to be washed away — forgiven by Christ. [© Copyright 2002-2023 Got Questions Ministries. All rights reserved. <https://www.gotquestions.org/Jesus-washing-feet.html>]


1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Q40. What was Jesus implying when He said, "not every one of you"?

Lesson 18: John 12:36^b-50 & 13:1-17

Day 6

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¹² When he _[Jesus] had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. "Do you understand what I have done for you?" he asked them.

Q41. How would you have answered Jesus' question?

¹³ "You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and rightly so, for that is what I am.
¹⁴ Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. ¹⁵ I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.

Q42. Is Jesus' act of washing the feet of His disciples an action that we should take with other Believers?
Or is Jesus' foot-washing a symbolic gesture?

Action?

Symbolic?

Q43. What are some examples for us today that will fulfill Jesus' instruction to "wash one another's feet"?

¹⁶ I tell you the truth, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him.

Q44. Please describe the relationship between a master and servant.

Q45. Please describe the relationship between a 'sender' and a messenger.

Lesson 18: John 12:36^b-50 & 13:1-17

¹⁷ Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.

Q46. Please review verses 13-17. Please identify and summarize “these things”.

V 13

V 14

V 15

V 16

V 17

Q47. Based on Jesus’ Words in verse 17, is it enough to know? Or does Jesus want His disciples (and us) to do . . . something (action)?

Know? Yes?

No?

Action? Yes? If yes, what?

No?

James 2:17

In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

James 2:26

As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead.

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