

MUST I WASH YOUR FEET?

By Brett Hickey

I read recently about a preacher who travels on foot across the United States and other countries carrying a large wooden cross and a large bowl from which he washes the feet of those he meets. His reenactment of Jesus' act of loving service garners attention and a venue to share the gospel, but did Jesus bind foot washing on all Christians?

It looks like He did if you read only John 13:14-15, "If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you." Open and shut, right?

Anglicans, Lutherans, Methodists, Presbyterians, and Catholics observe foot washing in a service on "Maundy Thursday." Some Adventists, Baptists, and Pentecostals practice foot washing more regularly.

We are so accustomed to washing our own feet that it strikes us to read about the Son of God washing the disciple's feet. Think about it. How dirty do your feet get anyway? Many people work all day at places where they don't even get their shoes dirty. We walk on clean carpet, tile floors, and sidewalks.

Jesus did not initiate a new worship practice. Foot washing was the normal private demonstration of hospitality in Palestine (Genesis 18:4; 1 Samuel 25:41; Luke 7:44; 1 Timothy 5:10). In fact, we never

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find this activity commanded or practiced in any New Testament congregation. Instead, Jesus taught the Twelve in this act, and, by extension, all disciples the importance of unselfishness, kindness, humility, serving, and submission.

Notice what Jesus says when He washes the disciples' feet in John 13:7, "What I am doing you do not understand now, but you will know after this." If Jesus intends to bind foot washing, He would not have uttered these words; that would have been nonsense! They certainly knew Jesus was washing their feet but He told them you do not know now what I am doing. Jesus was teaching a bigger, broader lesson that would involve much more than filthy feet. Watch Let the Bible Speak on March 4th. Lord willing, we will address this subject more fully.

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February TV Broadcast Schedule

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Sermon #1130

Q & A: Water or Spirit Baptism?

2/11

Sermon #1131 An Empty House

2/18

Sermon #1132 The Bible and Slavery

2/25

Sermon #1133 Redemption

Verses cited

Genesis 18:4

Please let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree.

1 Samuel 25:41

Then she arose, bowed her face to the earth, and said, "Here is your maidservant, a servant to wash the feet of the servants of my lord."

Luke 7:44

Then He turned to the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave Me no water for My feet, but she has washed My feet with her tears and wiped them with the hair of her head.

1 Timothy 5:10

well reported for good works: if she has brought up children, if she has lodged strangers, if she has washed the saints' feet, if she has relieved the afflicted, if she has diligently followed every good work.



Audio / video library, transcripts and other information can be found at:

www.LetTheBibleSpeak.com



Check out Let the Bible Speak on Facebook. Post questions and interact with Brett Hickey and others at: www.facebook.com/LBSunityseeker



Watch videos of our program at: www.youtube.com/LetTheBibleSpeak

Upcoming Gospel Meetings

February 16-18 CHURCH OF CHRIST in Frisco

9201 North County Road Frisco, TX Speaker: Bill Fergerson 7:30 pm (16th) 6:00 pm (17th) 10:30 am & 1:30 PM (18th)

February 21-25 CHURCH OF CHRIST in Grapevine

713 North Lucas Drive Grapevine, TX Speaker: Kevin Presley 7:30 pm (21st - 23rd) 6:00 pm (24th) 10:00 am & 2:00 PM (25th)

We support Brett Hickey's message, and the truths taught in the Bible for all mankind. We assist bringing this TV program to the north Texas area, and are glad you have watched the program! We would like you to visit any of our worship services!

Allen

East Allen CHURCH OF CHRIST

1008 E. Exchange Parkway Allen, TX

Arlington

CHURCH OF CHRIST on Green Oaks 4601 S. W. Green Oaks Blvd.

Arlington, TX

Bridgeport

East Mound CHURCH OF CHRIST

Highway 2123, 1.5 miles south of town Bridgeport, TX

Canton

Phalba CHURCH OF CHRIST

Hwy 198 between Maybank & Canton at Hwy 316 intersection Phalba, TX

Cleburne

South Walnut CHURCH OF CHRIST

306 South Walnut Street Cleburne, TX

Dallas

Dallas CHURCH OF CHRIST

122 Carol Lane Red Oak, TX

Dallas (Spanish speaking services) Dallas CHURCH OF CHRIST

2802 Walton Walker Boulevard Dallas, TX

Duncanville

Duncanville CHURCH OF CHRIST

1615 Stratford Lane Duncanville, TX

Fort Worth

Fossil Creek CHURCH OF CHRIST

3517 North Beach Street Fort Worth, TX

Frisco

Frisco, TX

CHURCH OF CHRIST in Frisco 9201 North County Road

Grapevine
CHURCH OF CHRIST in Grapevine

713 North Lucas Drive

Grapevine, TX

Lewisville

Denton county CHURCH OF CHRIST

1305 S. Business State Highway 121, Suite 105 Lewisville, TX

Mineral Wells

Mineral Wells CHURCH OF CHRIST

300 Southeast 15th Street Mineral Wells, TX

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Paris CHURCH OF CHRIST

35 13th Street S.E. Paris, TX

Rockwall

Northview CHURCH OF CHRIST

NE corner of I-30 Frontage & Industrial Blvd Rockwall, TX

Weatherford

Bankhead Drive CHURCH OF CHRIST

2610 East Bankhead Drive Weatherford, TX