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December 1, 2002

Jesus Speaks to the Eleven
John 13:31-38

INTRO: It is no longer Jesus alone with the twelve Apostles, it is Jesus our Lord alone with the eleven. Judas, "...having received the sop went immediately out: and it was night" (vs 30). Judas went out; he walked away from the Bread of life; he walked away from the early church with which "he never had any spiritual connection or sympathy" (Ross 43).

John, by inspiration of the Holy Spirit, closes verse thirty with the words: "And it was night." Yes, the sky overhead was dark, but there was a darker night in view, the deep darkness of the soul of Judas, a soul that shall never see even one ray of heavenly sunlight (11:10).

With the departure of Judas, Jesus turns to the eleven and continues His private ministry to them.

1. VSS 31-33, JESUS SPEAKS OF HIS CRUCIFIXION AND DEPARTURE
 1. Vs 31, Judas has left the upper room, and Jesus says: "...Now is the Son of man glorified, and God is glorified in him."
 1. The Lord Jesus knew with what purpose Judas had left the room. Judas had left, not to buy (vs 29), but to betray and sell the Son of God into the hands of sinners.
 2. "Now is the Son of man glorified..." Jesus is speaking of His death and He speaks of it as glorification!
 1. Glorified in His work for us on the cross. It was on the cross that He paid the sin debt for His people. He did for us what no other could do: "He gave His life a ransom for many."
 2. Glorified in that He fulfilled the prophecies of the Old and New Testaments. In the Old, they looked forward to the cross; in the New, we look back at the cross.
 3. Glorified in that He was obedient unto death on the tree, obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. In this, the second Adam succeeded where the first Adam failed.
 4. Glorified in that He destroyed the Devil and his power of death (Heb 2:14).
 5. Glorified in that He is now seated at the Father's right hand as our mediator. Pink says: "There is now a glorified man at the Father's right hand" (John 17:22).
 3. "God is glorified in him."
 1. God is glorified in that His Son voluntarily died for sinners. Think of it, Christ dying for a sinner such as I (Rom 5:6-10).
 2. God is glorified for His willingness to give His darling Son, to die

- on the cross, for wicked sinners (Isa 53:6).
3. God is glorified in that Christ satisfied the just demand of God for a perfect sacrifice (Isa 53:10-11).
2. Vs 32, To “straightway glorify him,” Jesus means to raise Him from the grave. Jesus would be crucified, but in three days, He will rise again.
 1. God is glorified in His Son because of the Son’s character, behavior, and virtue.
 2. “God shall also glorify him in himself.”
 1. “Father and Son glorify each other, for though they are two persons, they are one in essence. By means of the passion, resurrection, ascension, and coronation, God will glorify the Son in intimate union with himself” (Hendriksen 251).
 2. God the Son’s glory reflects the Father’s glory and the Father’s the Son’s.
 3. Vs 33, Jesus affectionately calls them little children and gives them the plain facts of what is about to take place.
 1. He wants it to be clear to the eleven that:
 1. His departure is near, and they would be alone.
 2. Folks will look for Him, but He will be gone. This will confuse many.
 3. Nobody can go with Him at this time. Unbelievers will never go with Him. The disciples could not go with Him at this time.
 2. The disciples have henceforth depended on Jesus. He has been their security, their guide. What are they going to do now?
 3. In verses 34-35, Jesus gives a commandment that will give them a foundation. It will set them apart from the world.
2. VSS 34-35, JESUS GIVES A NEW COMMANDMENT TO HIS DISCIPLES
 1. Vs 34, In Leviticus 19:18, 23 read these words: “Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.” This was given to the nation of Israel. What Jesus says in John 13:34 is now for it is for the church, for that body of believers that have been with Him for these past three years, and for every local assembly around the world.
 1. Our love one for another is based upon the love of Christ for us.
 2. In the Old Testament, the love of the neighbor was a fleshly relationship required by the law. In the New Testament, our love is a spiritual relationship, a love borne out of grace.
 1. We can love and forgive because He loved and forgave us (Eph 4:30-32).
 2. We are to “walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us” (Eph 5:1-2).
 2. Vs 35, What truly separates Christians from the world? True, godly love does.
 1. “Love is the *badge* of Christian discipleship. It is not knowledge, nor orthodoxy, nor fleshly activities, but (supremely) *love* which identifies a follower of the Lord Jesus. As the disciples of the Pharisees were known by their phylacteries, as the disciples of John were known by their baptism, and every school by its particular shibboleth, so the mark of a

true Christian is *love*; and that, a genuine, active love, not in words but in deeds” (Pink 341).

2. It is great to know the truth, to stand for orthodoxy; but Jesus says that folks will know that we are His disciples because of “love one for another.”
3. The Greek word for love in this verse is *agape*. This is a love that cannot truly be known without knowing Christ.
 1. “This type of love refuses to respond negatively, refuses to reject, refuses to demand conditions, and refuses to nitpick the lint off someone’s soul” (Swindoll 79).
 2. Agape love seeks to build up not destroy.

3. VSS 36-38, JESUS SPEAKS TO SIMON PETER

1. Vs 36, Peter is distressed by what Jesus has said in vs 33; he distressed about Jesus leaving and about his being left behind.
 1. Jesus is going to the Father. He will go to heaven by way of the cross, the grave, and the resurrection.
 2. Peter cannot follow now because God has a job for him to do and his time to go is not yet come.
 3. “Afterwards”-- Peter will follow Jesus and will do so by way of crucifixion on an upside down cross (John 21:18-19).
2. Vs 37, Gaebelien says: “He thought highly of himself, of his courage and determination. He did not know his utter weakness and helplessness, nor did he remember that the Lord had told him before, that Satan had desired to sift him as wheat, and that sifting was about to take place” (262).
3. Vs 38, Within a short span of hours, Peter would deny the Lord; publicly disown Him.
 1. Peter would not lay down His life for Jesus; Jesus would lay down His for Peter.
 2. Before 3:00 am, Peter would deny Jesus three times.
 3. We need to learn not to trust the flesh, not to be over confident (II Cor 12:10).

CONCLUSION: It is Christ, not man, that must be trusted and followed.