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:6 So He came to Simon Peter. He said to Him, "Lord, do You wash my feet?" Peter was shocked! Great emphasis: "YOU wash MY feet? No way!!"

:7 Jesus answered and said to him, "What I do you do not (fully) realize now, but you will understand (progress in knowledge) hereafter [Jesus replied, "You don't understand now why I'm doing it. Someday you will."].

:8 Peter said to Him, “Never shall You wash my feet!” [“No,” Peter protested, “You will never wash my feet!”] Later on that same evening, Peter declared he would lay down his life for Jesus; he just didn’t want Jesus to lay down His life for him. **Jesus answered him, “If I do not wash you, you have no part (absolutely none) with Me.”** Jesus is emphasizing the need of individuals to believe and accept the cleansing which He offers. If we refuse to let Jesus establish a permanent relationship with us, never will we enjoy His fellowship. Only those who by faith receive Jesus’ Person and work will experience being part of Jesus and His daily life.

:9 Simon Peter said to Him, “Lord, then wash not only my feet, but also my hands and my head.” “Separation from Jesus was abhorrent to him.” In typical fashion, he swung to the other extreme—“Give me a bath!” Whatever Jesus was offering, Peter wanted all of it. **:10 Jesus said to him, “He who has bathed [all over] needs only to wash his feet, but is completely clean.”** That initial coming to Jesus was likened to a bath in which we are washed all over, the washing of regeneration (**Titus 3:5**). “The man who has bathed,” returned Jesus, “only needs to wash his feet to be clean all over.” If a believer sins, he/she does not need to go back to the cross of Jesus to be saved all over again.

In the case of Peter and 10 other apostles, it was not their relationship that was in question, but their fellowship with Jesus day by day. Once we’ve taken a bath, we need only confess our sins to get our walk clean again (**1 Jn. 1:9**). To become a new creation in Jesus, there was only one sacrifice needed (**Heb. 10:14**). That ‘bath’ had only to occur once. In fact, it could only occur once. “Lord Jesus, You’ve washed my heart; now wash my feet whenever they become dirty.” The sense of His presence and love for us should have a daily impact on our lives: A permanent relationship and daily fellowship with Him.

...“and you are clean, but not all of you [that isn’t true for everyone here].” There was one notable exception. **:11 For He (fully) knew the one who was betraying Him; for this reason He said, “Not all of you are clean.”** [That is what He meant when He said, “Not all of you are clean.”] Judas was not clean even though Jesus had washed his feet. He knew that Judas had not taken a bath. Jesus was not taken by surprise by Judas’ betrayal (**6:70-71, Acts 2:23, Mt. 26:24**). These words were a last appeal and warning to Judas. “Judas, you need a bath!” In the silence that followed, He finished washing their feet. Then they would have begun the Passover meal, where Jesus would point out Judas’ betrayal and Peter’s denial, and the apostles would begin arguing who was the greatest! But before we get to Judas’ betrayal and Peter’s denial:

Think about Jesus—the Word, God, Creator, Life, Light, the Jewish Messiah, the Son of God—on His hands and knees serving you, and then follow His lead, operating by faith in your walk and in sharing His truths (**Heb. 13:7**).

Have you been born again (taken a bath), believed and received, believed the message of Jesus and called on His name, confessed Jesus as Lord and believed He was raised from the dead? If so, you’ve ‘taken a bath’, you have a permanent relationship with Him! If you have had your bath, perhaps you need to ask, “What is an area of my life where I am resisting the Lordship

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of Jesus or not in fellowship with Him—perhaps a certain relationship, some shoddy business practice, some attitude toward your children or your parents or your mate or employer, the unkind words or tones you might have used, the wrong attitudes you had, the rebellious disobedience you manifested?”

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