

The Mastery of Love

The significance of the Maundy event --- in general it can be seen as the brotherly (the inner circle of the disciples) common meal, Agape. During that meal Jesus had instituted the Eucharist (or the Lord's Supper) and the Washing of feet.

Love in progress - I

1. Jesus' love was experienced in his acts. During the three and a half years of his ministry nothing bad had happened with his disciples, (they were not injured or murdered, ill, thirsty or hungry; they had no lack of any necessary things).
2. Jesus gave the disciples spiritual gifts. They healed the sick and cast out demons.
3. Jesus prayed to the Father, *I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours.* (Joh 17:9).
4. Jesus opened their minds to understand the secret meaning of the kingdom and other significant spiritual things, which he told to others only in parables.

Remark: But in the end during the last meal Jesus' love reached its peak. *Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, **he loved them to the end.*** (Joh 13:1)

Love in progress - II

1. The washing of his disciples feet. Could you imagine? the King of the Universe, Everlasting God, Messiah, whom even the great prophet John the Baptist was not worthy to untie the strap of his sandal! (Joh 1:27), this King washed the feet of his disciples! (Joh 13:4,5).
2. The washing of his betrayer's feet. He even washed the feet of his betrayer, Judah Iscariot (it became obvious from the context, (v. 30).

Love in progress - III

1. Jesus tended to his church. The benefit of the institution of the Sacrament (spiritually and even physically) ... and after he had given thanks he broke bread and said, *"This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me."* (1Co 11:24). In the same way, he also took the cup after supper, saying, *"This cup is **the new covenant** in my blood. Do this, every time you drink it, in remembrance of me."* (1Co 11:25).

Love in progress - IV

1. On the cross Jesus had suffered for the sins and transgressions of his disciples without complaint, voluntarily, being affected with enormous pain and humiliation.
2. On the cross Jesus interceded before the Father for those who crucified him because they didn't know what they were doing.
3. On the cross Jesus entrusted his mother to John.

4. On the cross Jesus continued to save people, one of them was a robber.

Finally Love was perfected to the end - V

1. Christ's last words from the cross, "It is finished," (Joh 19:30). What was finished???

Remark: Love was mastered to the end and it was finished completely. Now it is sparkling as the best diamond polished by a master. *Greater love has no one than this, that someone lays down his life for his friends,* (Joh 15:13).

Conclusion:

Such in brief is the story of how Jesus mastered his love. Today we were told what it means to love to the end. But we have not said anything about where the true love begins!!!

The mastery of love begins with the glass of water you might give a person based on that person's relation to Christ, (Mat 10:42). Even such little love will be noticed, *surely I declare to you, he shall not lose his reward.* But the perfect love ends where one's life is given. Now having a system of tally marks before your eyes (I, II, III, IV, V) you can evaluate yourselves (A, B, C, D, F) as a master who works out the perfection of his own love.

Additionally, today we've heard Jesus addressing to us the New Command (Joh 13:34) *so that we love each other just as **the Lord have loved** (A+) his disciples, just as we are to show brotherly love, (A, B, C, D, F - ??????)*