

A NEW COMMAND

John 13:18-38

Key Verses: 13:34,35

“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

1. Read verses 1-2. What is this chapter about? Who was Judas? Read verse 18. Who are the ones Jesus has chosen? What does it mean to be a chosen people? What was God’s purpose in choosing? (Ex 19:5,6; 1Pe 2:9)
2. Read verse 18 again. How did Jesus regard Judas’ betrayal? How does Scripture describe it? (Ps 41:9) What does this quotation mean? Why is betrayal so disturbing?
3. Read verses 19-21. Why did Jesus tell the disciples beforehand? What did he teach them? Why? Read verses 22-25. How did they respond to Jesus’ announcement? What does their response show about them?
4. Read verses 26-30. How did Jesus indicate the betrayer? What is significant about giving and taking the bread? What is the deep meaning of the writer’s comment, “And it was night.”
5. Read verses 31-35. What did Jesus say after Judas left? What did he mean? What did Jesus say about his departure?
6. What command did he give his disciples? Why? How can we show ourselves to be Jesus’ disciples? Why is this necessary if the task of bringing the gospel to the world is to be accomplished?
7. What was Peter’s reaction? What does this reveal about the limitations of human loyalty? How did Jesus love Peter (and Judas) to the end?