

John 13:31-38

John 13:31-33 – *“(31) Therefore, when he was gone out, Jesus said, Now is the Son of man glorified, and God is glorified in him. (32) If God be glorified in him, God shall also glorify him in himself, and shall straightway glorify him. (33) Little children, yet a little while I am with you. Ye shall seek me: and as I said unto the Jews, Whither I go, ye cannot come; so now I say to you.”*

- A. For God the Father and God the Son to be glorified, the Son had to die (**Acts 3:13**).
 - 1. Jesus did not glorify Himself (**Hebrews 5:5**; cf. **John 7:16-18**).
 - 2. Moreover, He desired even His disciples to bring glory to His Father (**John 15:8** and **Philippians 1:10-11**).
- B. Jesus told His “little children” that He would soon be gone (**John 13:1**).
 - 1. The phrase “little children” is in reference to spiritual children (**Galatians 4:19**).
 - a. A teacher of the truth will see those he’s teaching in a manner compared to a father and his children (**I Corinthians 4:14-15**).
 - b. We see similar phrases throughout God’s word (**I Thessalonians 2:11-12**, **I Timothy 1:2**, **Titus 1:4**, **Philemon 10**, and **I John 2:12**).
 - 2. We know that Jesus is talking of being in Heaven, for if He were just talking of His death that will not be the last time they’ll see Him (**John 16:16-22** and **Mark 16:9-14**).
 - 3. This is what He had told the Jews (**John 7:32-39** and **John 8:21-23**).

John 13:34-35 – *“(34) A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. (35) By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.”*

- A. Brotherly love is not the new command (**Leviticus 19:18**).
 - 1. What is “new” is that love is to be expressed to brethren in a manner likened unto how Christ loves us (**John 15:12-13**).
 - 2. Brotherly love is a command expressed many times throughout the New Testament (**John 15:17**, **Romans 12:10**, **Galatians 5:13**, **Colossians 1:4**, **I Thessalonians 4:9-10**, **Hebrews 13:1**, **I Peter 1:22**, **I Peter 3:8**, **I John 4:7-11**, **I John 5:1**, etc.).
- B. Our love for one another is an expression of discipleship to others (**I John 3:10-14**).
 - 1. The world needs to be able to see our obedience in this and all commands of God (**Matthew 5:14-16** and **Philippians 2:14-16**).
 - 2. Everyone can know that you’re a liar if you say you love God, but you do not love your brethren (**I John 4:20-21**).

John 13:36-38 – *“(36) Simon Peter said unto him, Lord, whither goest thou? Jesus answered him, Whither I go, thou canst not follow me now; but thou shalt follow me afterwards. (37) Peter said unto him, Lord, why cannot I follow thee now? I will lay down my life for thy sake.*

(38) Jesus answered him, Wilt thou lay down thy life for my sake? Verily, verily, I say unto thee, The cock shall not crow, till thou hast denied me thrice."

A. At this point, the disciples should know where Jesus is going (**John 6:62-69**).

1. Jesus will continue to try and get the disciples to understand He is going to Heaven (**John 14:1-3** and **John 20:17**).

2. Yet, as we've discussed before, their minds are settled in thinking that Jesus will stay on earth as their king (**Acts 1:1-6**).

B. Peter was quick to declare his willingness to die for Jesus (**Matthew 26:31-35** and **Luke 22:31-34**).

1. Jesus foretold Peter of his denial (**Matthew 26:69-75**).

2. We'd all do well to be cautious when it comes to thinking that we cannot fail (**Proverbs 16:18**, **Matthew 26:41**, and **I Corinthians 10:12**).

3. Overconfidence in our abilities, aside from the Lord, can blind us to our true spiritual condition (**Revelation 3:17-19**).