



International Bible Lesson

International Bible Study Commentary

L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

Have A Blessed Day!

John 13:12-20

If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them
(John 13:17—KJV).

If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them
(John 13:17—NASB).

If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them
(John 13:17—NRSV).

As I walked out of a store recently, a customer behind me said to me, “Have a blessed day!” Though I have received that blessing before, I was truly blessed to hear it and receive it again, and I turned and thanked her. In today’s world where we hear so many cursing others, it is truly a blessing to hear someone bless you, for the blessing can send happiness into your heart. “Have a blessed day” is a Christian blessing; so how can we always enjoy a blessed day? After Jesus humbly washed His disciples’ feet, in John 13:13, Jesus said to them, “You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am.” Jesus taught and showed His followers how to serve others, and He said, “If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.” Three fundamental or key elements in the Christian faith bring blessings to Christians. First, Christians accept Jesus as their Teacher. They believe what He taught about God, himself, and reality as revealed in the Bible. Second, Christians accept Jesus as their Lord. Christians believe Jesus is the Lord over all of life, and they kneel before Jesus because they have received Him as the Lord over all their life. Christians face the world and all they see and hear with hope and happiness because they know their everlasting future is secure in the hands of their Savior.

Building their lives on these foundational truths, Christians receive God’s blessing when they live according to what they know and believe to be true; when they love and serve others as Jesus commanded. Have a blessed day!

Thinking Further

1. Did the disciples know what Jesus did as He did it? What reason did Jesus give them for what He did? Did they understand more about what He did later?
2. What three titles best describe Jesus in these verses of Scripture?
3. Was Jesus a messenger? If so, how was Jesus a messenger? What kind of messengers did Jesus expect His disciples to be?
4. What did Jesus say servants were not greater than? What did Jesus say messengers were not greater than?
5. Why did Jesus tell His disciples about the fact that one of them would betray Him?

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