

The Crown of Humility

Long ago, in a distant land a man rose from an evening meal, removed his outer clothing and wrapped a towel around his waist. He filled a basin with water and one by one washed the feet of each guest drying their feet with the towel. Oddly, this man was also a guest. No, he was more than a guest. The other guests were his closest followers and he was their teacher.

Had anyone looked in on this occasion, they would not have gasped at the obvious reversal of roles. They would have seen an ordinary man washing the feet of ordinary guests. However, His disciples knew that he was no ordinary man. They had witnessed His miracles, had listened to His teachings, had been given authority by Him. Even so, not everything about Jesus fit their expectations.

They called him Lord and Teacher. Yet he washed their feet. There were twelve men who had supper with Jesus; twelve pairs of feet...

Judas, Thaddeus, Simon,
James the Lesser, Bartholomew,
Matthew, Thomas, Philip, John,
James, Andrew, Peter.

One would betray him; one would openly deny him; all would run away.

Do not misunderstand. He was not downtrodden, worn out, or depressed. He had not been beaten by the enemy; he had not been demoted; he was not a broken shell of a man who was now resigning himself to his pitiful lot in life as a house servant.

He was the Messiah, the anointed one, Son of David: King. He was Deity in the flesh. And without removing his identity, without removing his

role, He clothed himself with humility and became a servant.

Did anyone in that room understand what had happened?

Was anyone moved by this act of humility?

Was anyone just a little embarrassed?

Divine Royalty stooped to the ground to perform the task of an insignificant servant.

He calls his disciples today to follow in his footsteps; to humble themselves as servants.

No one is asked to remove their role in life as husband/father, wife/mother, elder, deacon, preacher, CEO, president, director, foreman, owner, employer, student, teacher, laborer, or any other role. However, the call IS to stoop down and, without removing your role, clothe yourself with humility, and imitate the Master.

Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, who although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bondservant, and being made in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. (Philippians 2:4-8)

Our king crowned himself with humility. How will you respond to our Lord and Teacher?

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