**The Hands Of Jesus**

(John 13:1-3 KJV)

*1Now before the feast of the passover, when Jesus knew that his hour was come that he should depart out of this world unto the Father, having loved his own which were in the world, he loved them unto the end.2And supper being ended, the devil having now put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him;3 Jesus knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he was come from God, and went to God;*

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he hands that are attached to our bodies are very important. In fact, when I was in elementary school the teacher would ask us before we ate to hold out our hands with the palm side up to make sure that you had washed your hands properly. Furthermore, if you look at your hand perhaps there is a mark made by a ring, a scar caused by an accident, or a callous caused by many years of hard work. Moreover, if your eyesight is average you may see tiny ridges of skin called fingerprints—and what's amazing is no two hands are alike, every hand is different. Insomuch so, the human hand is a marvelous creation and a wonderful anatomy instrument.

The hand also is a wonderful instrument used to communicate. In this age of information technology for blind people hands substitute for eyes in the reading of Braille, for the deaf people hands substitute for ears through the medium of the movement of the hands. Furthermore, our hands are the main way in which we interact with our electronic devices whether it is a keyboard, voice commands, a mouse or a touch screen electronic.

Now other parts of our body assist the speaker but the hands speak for themselves. For example, by them we ask, promise, invoke, dismiss, threaten, and entreat; by them we express fear, joy, grief, our doubts; we show moderation or outpouring.

In using our hands we can also interject gestures in ways that are negative, as well as positive—our hands can be outstretched in a gesture of peace, or they can swing out and punch or slap. Our hands can handle weapons of destruction as easily as tools of peace. So, how we use our hands is very important.

While in church we use our hands in a variety of verifiable ways. Personally I'm always anxious to use my hands to handle and accept the Lord Supper. The Holy Communion during the biblical days was fought hard for by the people, to have the right to have the bread, the body of Christ, placed into their hands—especially when I think about the hands of Jesus and what they suffered on our behalf. So, I want to preach about, "The Hands Of Jesus".

In the text Jesus and His disciples are seated around the table to come and consume their last meal together, and the supper has already begun to commemorate this grand occasion. He knows that his hour has come to be offered up into the hands of his enemies. The time in which he is now sharing with his disciple was not only a spectacular hour, but also a special hour. He has taught them the methods of servant-hood. He has taught them the method of sacredness. And he has taught them diligently the methods of stewardship, and now he’s ready to be offered up accordingly to fulfill the validity of God’s Holy word.

John the writer marks a turning point in his gospel and the ministry of Jesus Christ. Jesus' public ministry to the nation of Israel had run its course and ended in her complete and final rejection of Him as Messiah.

On the first day of the week, Jesus had entered Jerusalem in triumph to the enthusiastic shouts of the people. Those people nevertheless misunderstood His ministry and His message. The Passover season had arrived, and by Friday He would be utterly rejected and executed. God, however, would turn that execution into the great and final sacrifice for sin, and Jesus would die as the true Passover Lamb.