

Gospel of John
[A New Commandment (John 13:31-35)]

Introduction

-Jesus' farewell words and works (chs. 13-17): service (footwashing); comfort (discourses); prayer

-General Observations About the Farewell Discourses:

- There is uncertainty as to whether the farewell discourses were all spoken in the Upper Room.
- In a sense, these were not farewell discourses.
- The ministry of the HS is one of the primary themes of the farewell discourses.
- John includes the farewell discourses for believers and unbelievers.

→“Where I am going you cannot come right now.” (13:31-35)

I. Mutual Glorification Anticipated (vs. 31, 32)

-Jesus' glorification = His sufferings, death, resurrection, ascension (John 7:39; 12:16, 23; 17:5; Phil. 2:9, 10; Heb. 12:2)

II. Jesus' Departure Affirmed (v. 33)

-Compare John 13:33, 36 to John 7:33-36 and John 8:21, 22

III. A New Commandment Announced (vs. 34, 35)

-The New Commandment Expressed (v. 34a); Exemplified (v. 34b); Excited (v. 35)

Practical Lessons

1) God is sometimes glorified in the most unexpected ways (Gal. 6:14).

2) Believers will be with Jesus after they die. Unbelievers won't.

3) Love for other believers is a sure mark that one is a true Christian (1 John 3:14, 16).