“First Things First In These Final Words by Jesus”

John 13:31-38 Pastor Timothy Atkins

INTRODUCTION READ John 13:1-38 Jesus Instructing His Disciples

Unique to the Gospel of John . . . Teaching by Jesus for His disciples

Words from Jesus for His disciples because of His departure 13:31-14:31

departing words of comfort and care His words of instruction and direction

 mask of Judas been removed by Jesus . . .

 a shelter of comfort in His words given to His disciples

Series of Questions from His disciples [Peter, Thomas, Philip, Judas]

1. His Statement of His Divine Glory 13:31-32

 Because of the Reality of All That Is Going to Happen

 & The Necessity He Be Glorified in All Ways

1. The Glory of the Son of Man & the Glory of God In Him 13:31

“In general the glory of God refers to his "own essential worth, greatness, power, majesty, everything in him which calls forth man's adoring reverence"

Now it was to happen that the glory of God displayed John 12:20-23; 17:4-5

1. God Will Glorify Him & His Glory Will Be the Glory of God 13:32 what glory He displayed & how glorified He is cf. John 10:30-31

Let it be noted that the Lord regards His own atoning death on the cross as the most glorious part of His work on earth; and that nothing so tends to glorify the Father’s attributes of justice, holiness, mercy, and faithfulness to His promises as the death of the Son.  Let it be noted that the Lord does not speak of His death as a punishment, disgrace, or humiliation, but as an event most glorious—glorifying both to Himself and to the Father. So Christians should learn to “glory in the cross.” JC. Ryle

1. His Announcement of His Departure 13:33

 Because of The Reality of His Going Away from Them

 & The Necessity They Would Remain Without Him cf. John 7:33; 8:21

1. His Commandment for His Disciples 13:34-35

Because of The Reality of His Love & The Necessity of Our Love

1. Loving Disciples of Jesus Knowing His Love for Each of Us 13:34

“A new commandment I give to you that you love one another” present actives

“just as I have loved you that you yourselves love one another” cf. I John 3:18

 Choice to sacrifice, Commitment to service, Conduct to show

1. Being Disciples of Jesus Having This Love for One Another 13:35

“by this all will know that my disciples you are if love you have among . . .”

“We are to love our neighbor as ourselves, but we are to love our fellow-Christians as, Christ loved us, and that is far more than we love ourselves.” Charles Spurgeon

1. His Fulfilment for His Disciples 13:36-38

 Because of the Reality of Our Own Limitations

 & The Necessity of His Own Sufferings

Another prophecy of Jesus to soon be fulfilled highlighting His words

“peter did not recognize his own limitations” “unaware of his weaknesses”

CONCLUSION Both The Reality and Necessity . . .

* Again the Lord Jesus promises and predicts showing that He understands all the things that are going to happen and therefore we look to Him
* Glorifying Jesus because of Who He Is and What He has Done
* Obeying Jesus because of How He has loved us and Who We Are
* Being a disciple of Jesus showing the love of Jesus for His disciples as those who know the love of Jesus as His disciple
* Christian standard according to the words of Jesus for His disciples