



Jesus Christ, our All in all
CrossTalk's 25th Anniversary

10 – 16 May, 2020

Jesus Christ's love transforms us into servanthood

'But he who is greatest among you shall be your servant'

Matthew 23:11

Jesus Christ the Servant

† **Jesus Christ served us when**

- **He washed the feet of His apostles**
- **He fed the people**
- **He turned water into wine**

But there is much more to His servanthood. He served since the Creation and is still serving us and He will continue until eternity

† **Jesus Christ, Who is God, the second person of the Trinity, descended from the Kingdom of Heaven on a mission to serve us and give us life in all its fullness. *'For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many'* Mk 10:45**

† **Though all His prayers, teachings and actions on earth were to serve us, the biggest act of service ever is Christ laying His life for us (1 Tm 2:6). *'Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross'* Phi 2:5-8**

† **Christ did not only serve us in His earthly ministry, He is serving us until the end of times. *'It is Christ Who died, and furthermore is also risen, Who is even at the right hand of God, Who also makes intercession for us'* Rom 8:34b**

Christ asks us to be, the way we were created, on His image and likeness

- † *'For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich' 2 Cor 8:9*
- † *'Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself' Phil 2:3*

Jesus Christ washes the feet of His apostles (Jn 13:1-7; Eph 6:15)

- † Jesus Christ intends to wash the feet to prepare His apostles to preach. *'How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the Gospel of peace, of them that bring good tidings' (Is 52:7; Rom 10:15b)*
- † That is why Christ tells Peter, *'If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me' Jn 13:8b*

The only way to accomplish God's plan is to be a servant for His glory

- † The apostles were transformed from seeking their own glory, seeking who is going to be the first to becoming humble servants for the glory of God
- † Peter describes himself as a bondservant; a bondservant is the free slave at Jubilee who freely decides to serve willingly his master forever, out of his love to him, not out of obligation (*Ex 21:5-6*)
- † He who was once ashamed of Christ, becomes a great apostle turning thousands to Christ. At Peter's words, the dead returned to life and the sick were healed by touching his shadow
- † The mother of Zebedee's sons, James and John, asks the Lord that her two sons may sit one at His right hand and one on the left in His Kingdom (*Mt 20:20-28*)
- † But Jesus called them to Himself and said, *'You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those who are great exercise authority over them. Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant' Jn 20:25-26*
- † James grows in Christ and starts his letter by, *'James, a bondservant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad: Greetings' Jas 1:1*

Being a servant, is being on the image of God, relating to others, helping others, in all aspects

- † *'And He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, 'If anyone desires to be first, he shall be last of all and servant of all' Mk 9:35*
- † *'For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win the more' 1 Cor 9:19*
- † *'or we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus' sake' 2 Cor 4:5*
- † *'He must increase, but I must decrease' Jn 3:30*

The difference between Jonah and Christ (Jon 1-4)

- † *'And Jonah indeed, when he was to go forth, instead ran away that he might not be ridiculed. But I, knowing that I am both to be crucified and mocked, have come nonetheless. While Jonah did not endure so much as to be reproached for those who were saved, I underwent even death, and that the most shameful death, and after this I sent others again' Saint John Chrysostom*

Bibliography

Unless otherwise noted, all Biblical passages referenced are from the New King James Version

Legend

 Refers to mandatory readings

Verse to memorize

'And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men'
Colossians 3:23

In my Prayer and Faith Autobiography Book

God acts

- † **Christ, Who is God, descended to earth serve me and save me, out of His love to me**

My reaction

- † **Am I serving Him by serving others?**
- † **Am I laying my life for Him by laying it for others?**

During the coming week, let us pray expectantly

1. seeking the Lord's will to be done in Lebanon
2. for CrossTalk to find a locale

3. for David, Gisele, Habib and Karim
4. to become more of saints and less of sinners
5. to seek the Lord in every word I say, every act I do and every thought I think
6. to help in building His Kingdom by building His Church on earth
7. to deny ourselves, carry our cross and follow Him
8. to thank Him for creating us and each one around us, on His image and likeness, and choosing us to reveal His splendor
9. to all the sick
10. to all those in prison
11. to the unity of the Christians
12. to one another to be honest and not lack integrity
13. to put all that we have in the Lord's hands trusting His management
14. to all the Christians who are being persecuted, and to those who are persecuting them
15. to all families, that the Lord unites the parents together in His Name and stops all fights
16. to the situation in Lebanon, Syria, Egypt, Iraq and the whole region

During this coming week, we will lift the Church and its unity in prayer

<p><u>الصلاة الربانية</u> أبانا الَّذِي فِي السَّمَوَاتِ لِيَتَقَدَّسَ اسْمُكَ لِيَأْتِ مَلَكُوتُكَ لِيَتَكُنْ مَشِيئَتُكَ كَمَا فِي السَّمَاءِ كَذَلِكَ عَلَى الْأَرْضِ خَبِّرْنَا الضَّرُورِيِّ لِلْحَيَاةِ أَعْطِنَا الْيَوْمَ وَاعْفُزْ لَنَا ذُنُوبَنَا كَمَا نَعْفُزُ نَحْنُ أَيْضًا لِلْمُذْنِبِينَ إِلَيْنَا وَلَا تُدْخِلْنَا فِي تَجْرِبَةٍ لَكِنِّ نَجِّنَا مِنَ الشَّرِّ لَأَنَّ لَكَ الْمَلِكُ وَالْقُدْرَةُ وَالْمَجْدُ إِلَى الْأَبَدِ أَمِينَ</p>	<p><u>قانون الايمان</u> نؤمن بآله واحد، الأب ضابط الكل، خالق السماء والأرض، كل ما يُرى وما لا يُرى وبربٍ واحد يسوع المسيح، ابن الله الوحيد، المولود من الأب قبل كل الدهور، نور من نور، إله حق من إله حق، مولود غير مخلوق، له الجوهر نفسه مع الأب، الذي به كان شيء، ذلك الذي من أجلنا نحن البشر، ومن أجل خلاصنا، نزل من السماوات، وتجسد متأنسًا بالروح القدس من مريم العذراء، وصُلب عنا في عهد بيبلاطس بنطايوس، وتألّم وقُبر وقام في اليوم الثالث، كما في الكتب، وصعد إلى السماوات وجلس عن يمين الأب، ويجيء بمجدي لِيُدِين الأحياء والأموات ولن يكون لملكه نهاية وبالروح القدس، الربُّ المُحِبِّ، المُنبَتِّق من الأب المسجود له والمُجَدِّد مع الأب والابن النَّاطِق بالأنبياء وبكنيسة واحدة مقدسة، جامعة، رسوليَّة ونعترف بمعمودية واحدة لمغفرة الخطايا وننتظر قيامة الموتى وحياة الدهر الآتي أمين</p>
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