

The Road to Resurrection is Paved with Promise: Certainty of Completion | Foundation of Expectation
US / THEM Praying God Will: Soften Hearts – Give Opportunities | Commit we will: Step Out in Faith

This is our time...to leverage every advantage for the advancement of God's Kingdom...EASTER
Look forward to...Easter's it – Dress up – Worship Church Family – Engage People with the Gospel

If We're Not Tethered to Christ...We'll Get Tossed by the World - ALARM

Long Road to Resurrection paved w/ promise...make **'Reminder Stops'** – Tour to Grand Canyon

First reminder stop - **Big Idea - The Road to Resurrection's Reminds Believers to Exalt Christ**

Contrast...Narrative Device Jn. 12 - Love Jesus / Hate (1-2;10-11) Wall Hate | (3-9) Window Love

Direct applications...indirect...actions of others (**How they relate to Jesus**) we can take learn from

People with 3 attitudes that divulge attitudes and reveal relationships... **In View of the Resurrection:**

1. **Some Devise Heaven's Defeat** – First Group are the Jewish Religious Leaders

(1) It was now two days before the Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread. And the chief priests and the scribes were seeking how to arrest him by stealth and kill him, ² for they said, "Not during the feast, lest there be an uproar from the people." | Moved from idea to action...wheels...Jesus must die

Jesus has already told them He's the Son of God...their response: Kill Him | Right at Heaven

God...we don't believe in your way...so we're going to hatch a plan to make sure we get our way
After Jesus overturned the money tables and ran out the corruption...Religious leaders = Dead

o **Ultimately...Why did the Jews want Jesus dead? Threatened by Him**

Relationship: Threatened – I have an agenda and Jesus messes with it

1) **'seeking how to arrest him by stealth & kill him'** 'Seeking' – Power & Control | Stealth – Deception

Not during the festival – Passover & Unleavened (Explain) – Didn't want people know = Sin does
sin's always fight for power & control | Sin always works in darkness | Jesus always threatens sinful desires

Fight or Flight – Jesus comes and confronts the sin in our life...Fight or Flight | REPENT

Things we're all fighting Heaven on – Unbelievers Belief | Believer's 'pet' sins | **Begging you = Lose**

Amazing...what they meant to defeat Heaven's plan...was Heaven's plan! – Matthew 16:21

'From that time Jesus began to show His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised.'

Can God use wickedness for His own glory & purpose? Is He still right to punish wickedness? **GOSPEL**
First People, in view of the resurrection tried to devise Heavens defeat from a threatened position...

2. **Others Emphasize Earthly Prosperity** – Second Group Is Judas and Some Disciples

And while he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he was reclining at table, a woman came with an alabaster flask of ointment of pure nard, very costly, and she broke the flask and poured it over his head.⁴ There were some who said to themselves indignantly, "Why was the ointment wasted like that?"⁵ For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii and given to the poor." And they scolded her.⁶ But Jesus said, "Leave her alone. Why do you trouble her? She has done a beautiful thing to me. ⁷ For you always have the poor with you, and whenever you want, you can do good for them. But you will not always have me. ⁸ She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for burial.⁹ And truly, I say to you, wherever the gospel is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in memory of her."¹⁰ Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went to the chief priests in order to betray him to them. ¹¹ And when they heard it, they were glad and promised to give him money. And he sought an opportunity to betray him.

Two kinds of earthly prosperity: Judas – Personal greed | Some disciples – Sought societal benefit

Relationship: Opportunistic – I have an agenda and Jesus advances it

The Religious Leaders: looking for a way to arrest Jesus by stealth...Judas was ready to play ball

(10) **'He went to the Chief Priests' – 'Sought an opportunity' - Mat. 26 15 'What will you give me'**
After this woman, who we'll talk about in a minute, does this incredibly selfless act...It's Judas

Jn. 12:4-5 ⁴ But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples, said, ⁵ "Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" ⁶ He said this, not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief, and having charge of the moneybag he used to help himself to what was put into it.

Playing about poor...hands into the till - Leveraging religious position for personal gain & greed | Judas

Nice: People leveraging Jesu's name for their own fame & profits isn't new. | All Know Names

o **abuse people 'Name of Jesus' for your own personal greed & gain...almost appalling betrayal as Judas**

Cor. 15:33 'Bad company ruins good morals' – Some disciples...yeah...why is she doing that...mob

"I here were some who said to themselves indignantly, "Why was the ointment wasted like that?" For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii and given to the poor." And they scolded her. Is caring for the needy a bad thing? No...so what's the problem?

• **Worship = 'Why' - Serving = outcome | Horizontal Motivation over Vertical Engagement**

Refugee Population – Can I share the gospel? No – Then we're not interested

Cause Christianity = Jesus pacifist | social justice warrior | environmentalist | **FOX HOLE**

• **The relationship to Jesus becomes opportunistic to move an agenda...backwards at best!**

Poor? Worship | Environment? Stewardship | Unity & Justice? Honors God | **Great Commandment?**

The poor will always be with you, but I will not always be with you – Good idea...wrong motive

Our last person who had the right priority and the right relationship | In view of the resurrection

3. **We Must Prioritize the Savior's Glory** – This is Mary (Sister of Martha and Lazarus)

³ And while he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, (Healed...Lepers don't host dinner parties) as he was reclining at table, a woman came with an alabaster flask of ointment of pure nard, very costly, (Pure - Rare India...kept as a status symbol...years wage...skinny neck for drops...not how she used it) (3b) and she broke the flask and poured it over his head. (However much you make in a year...gone) ⁴ There were some who said to themselves indignantly, "Why was the ointment wasted like that?" ⁵ For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii and given to the poor." And they scolded her. (Jesus) ⁶ But Jesus said, "Leave her alone. Why do you trouble her? She has done a beautiful thing to me. ⁷ For you always have the poor with you, and whenever you want, you can do good for them. But you will not always have me. ⁸ She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for burial. (9) And truly, I say to you, wherever the gospel is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in memory of her."

John 12 – Martha serving | Lazarus reclining | Martha worshipping...where we always find her x3

• **Outrageously expensive perfume – Anoints – Head to toe with her hair wiping – aroma filling**

o **Who typically gets anointed? Kings and Priests...Jesus is both & this only 'for burial'**

• **Relationship: Devoted – I have an agenda and Jesus sets it**

She set out to exalt the Lord Jesus Christ in a visible – thoughtful – sacrificial way = model

So do you get money from like the government of the pope of something

When we Give

a) **People will think it's a waste** - Judas and the disciples

The widows offering was too small – Mary's offering is too extravagant

Widow – 'She gave all she had' | Mary - 'She gave with what she had'

b) **It must be an act of worship** – She fell at Jesus feet

c) **It reveals what we value** – 300 denarii | Give me 5 minutes...checkbook & calendar – heart – BG

d) **The Lord is glorified** – Beautiful

e) **We are blessed** – Verse 9 - Not financially but eternally – Woman in Davenport

Why was Mary so devoted? Seen and believed the power of Jesus! Brother from the dead!

First reminder stop – The road to resurrection reminds believers to exalt Christ

How is your relationship to Christ? Threatened – Opportunistic – Devoted

Easter's Coming - If we're not tethered to Christ...we'll get tossed by the world