

EXTRAVAGANCE AND THE ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION OF TWO MIRACLES

JOHN 12:1-11

¹ Six days before the Passover celebration began, Jesus arrived in Bethany, the home of Lazarus—the man he had raised from the dead. ² A dinner was prepared in Jesus' honor. Martha served, and Lazarus was among those who ate^[a] with him. ³ Then Mary took a twelve-ounce jar^[b] of expensive perfume made from essence of nard, and she anointed Jesus' feet with it, wiping his feet with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance.

⁴ But Judas Iscariot, the disciple who would soon betray him, said, ⁵ "That perfume was worth a year's wages.^[c] It should have been sold and the money given to the poor." ⁶ Not that he cared for the poor—he was a thief, and since he was in charge of the disciples' money, he often stole some for himself.

⁷ Jesus replied, "Leave her alone. She did this in preparation for my burial. ⁸ You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me."

⁹ When all the people^[d] heard of Jesus' arrival, they flocked to see him and also to see Lazarus, the man Jesus had raised from the dead. ¹⁰ Then the leading priests decided to kill Lazarus, too, ¹¹ for it was because of him that many of the people had deserted them^[e] and believed in Jesus.

¹⁶ When you open your hand, you satisfy the hunger and thirst of every living thing. -Psalm 145:16 NLT

¹⁶ Generous to a fault, you lavish your favor on all creatures. -Psalm 145:16 The Message

¹⁸ The wall was made of jasper, and the city was pure gold, as clear as glass. ¹⁹ The wall of the city was built on foundation stones inlaid with twelve precious stones:^[e] the first was jasper, the second sapphire, the third agate, the fourth emerald, ²⁰ the fifth onyx, the sixth carnelian, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth chrysoprase, the eleventh jacinth, the twelfth amethyst. ²¹ The twelve gates were made of pearls—each gate from a single pearl! And the main street was pure gold, as clear as glass. ²² I saw no temple in the city, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. Revelation 21:18-22

TOP 10 THINGS ABOUT EXTRAVAGANCE AND THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST

1. God is an extravagant God.
2. He gave the most extravagant gift to us.
3. Jesus had no problem with strategic extravagance.
4. There is nothing holy about poverty. But, stinginess is unrighteous.
5. There is nothing righteous about wealth. But, self-centeredness is unrighteous.
6. There is something beautiful about extravagance.
7. There is something unholy about *ill-placed* extravagance.
8. We hate it in others. We justify it for ourselves. God celebrates it when we get it right.
9. We can be extravagant in our giving whether we are poor or wealthy.
10. We are never more like God than when we are extravagant.

NEXT STEPS:

Memorize Psalm 145:16

(invite next steps from staff mtg)

men's retreat

I will find opportunities to be extravagant to neighbors, with church family, and privately with God.