

WHOEVER GETS THE SON, GETS IT ALL **(Mark 14:1-11)**

The things done from pure innocent love become Jesus' treasures. Can you recall doing something for the Lord out of pure love that really cost you? In this passage, we see a sacrifice of extravagant love by a woman Mark allows to remain nameless.

I. WE SHOULD FOLLOW MARY'S SACRIFICIAL ACT OF WORSHIP (vv. 1-5)

1. Jesus was in Bethany for a meal at Simon the Leper's home
 - The guest list, according to John 12, included the disciples, Mary, Martha, and Lazarus.
2. Imagine the scene:
 - The disciples were likely asking questions about Jesus' Olivet discourse.
 - Then an incredible event takes place:
 - The woman unexpectedly enters carrying a very expensive flask of perfume, breaks the neck of the flask, and pours it over Jesus' head and feet.
 - There was no question where her loyalty lay – Jesus was her Lord and Master and she made that public.
3. The disciples responded with outrage.
 - The world and even some Christians have no problem with a measured devotion to Jesus.
 - Jesus had something very different to say. He defended this sacrificial act of worship with four powerful statements.

II. JESUS HONORS A SACRIFICIAL ACT OF WORSHIP (vv. 6-9)

1. Jesus said what she did was "a beautiful thing."
 - It means what is morally good with nuances of nobility and beauty.
 - The disciples judged by action; Jesus looked at her heart and judged her motive.
 - When you feel the impulse to do something beautiful for God (in keeping with His word), then crown it with action.
2. Jesus said she placed Him before anything or anyone else.
 - The disciples said what she did was a waste; thus, they were saying Jesus was unworthy of such an extravagance.
 - The value of the gift signaled the value of the person to whom it was given.
3. Jesus said she did give totally.
 - She didn't measure it out grudgingly. She gave it all.
 - Jesus doesn't want our half-heartedness, half-ambition, or half-devotion.
4. Jesus said what she did would be remembered.
 - She knew what others struggled to see: The gospel is inseparable from the suffering of Jesus.
 - What we do for Jesus in His service has eternal blessings.

What value do you place on the Son? What does our worship, our service, our devotion say about that value? Do we grasp the value of the cross of Christ?