

A GIFT FOR JESUS

Text: Mark 14:3-9

I. MARY'S _____ (vs. 3)

- “Consecrate” = to _____ something to God, set something aside for His use, or devote it exclusively to Him.
- Background: A _____ held at the home of Simon the leper in Bethany.
 - Lazarus was present, his sister Martha was one of those who served; and the woman who anointed Jesus was _____, the sister of Martha and Lazarus.
- Mary’s valuable box of ointment:
 - Held a pound (in volume a pint) of expensive _____ made of nard (oil imported from N. India).
 - Value (estimated by Judas) = 300 denari, roughly an entire year’s _____ for a laboring person.
 - Typically stored in a sealed alabaster box with a long, slender neck.
- When Mary came in, she broke the neck of the container and anointed Jesus with the _____ contents of the box.
- Application: Jesus is also worth our very _____, given freely and without reserve.
 - Jesus is worth the very best of your _____.
 - Jesus is worth the best of your _____.
 - Jesus is worth the best of your _____.
 - Jesus is worth the best of your _____.
 - Jesus is worth the best of your _____.

II. JUDAS' _____ (vs. 4-5)

- “Some” were upset with Mary = the _____ (Matthew) starting with _____ Iscariot (John).
- Application: If you really fall in love w/ Jesus and show it, like Mary, will always be nay-sayers like Judas who will say, “What a _____!”
 - If you’re contemplating giving something really big and precious to your Lord (like your life), determine not to be _____ by the critics.
 - And don’t second-guess your decision because it’s never a waste to give your best to Jesus. It’s an _____.

III. JESUS' _____ (vs. 6-9)

- Jesus’ response to Mary’s critics has three parts:

A. He spoke words of _____ (vs. 6-7).

B. He spoke of her _____ (vs. 8).

- In anticipation of Jesus’ death on cross, Mary had come early to prepare His body for _____.
- Evidently she understood, at least to some extent and probably better than the disciples, what was about to happen to Jesus (Mark 9:31-34).
- “She hath done what she could” = “**What she _____, she _____.**”
- Application: If we really understand what Jesus has done for us, and our hearts are full of love for Him, that love is going to come spilling out of our hearts in expressions of word and deed. (1 John 4:19).
 - If you’re struggling to give your heart and life fully to Jesus, you need to remind yourself of the Savior’s _____.
- **C. He spoke of a _____ (vs. 9)**
- Mary and her deed would never be _____ because record of her love and gift would be preserved, not in some statue doomed to rust or decay, but in the imperishable _____ of God.
- Application: Whenever we are tempted to grow weary or discouraged, we need to remember that God is not quick to forget our work and labor of love done in His name.
 - Sometimes, as for Mary, there may be a memorial on earth.
 - But always, there is an eternal reward in _____; and the crowning day is fast approaching.

CONCLUSION

- What will the _____ of your life be? Will it be that you gave your _____ to Jesus?