

John 12:1-11 Worship At His Feet:

John 46-57; those who didn't believe plotted to get rid of Jesus and the high priest, Caiaphas, gives an unconscious prophecy that it was necessary for one man to die not only for the nation Israel, but the whole world.

- I. (1-8) Lazarus eats, Martha serves and Mary anoints the feet of Jesus.

In the midst of the supper, Mary gave a remarkable gift to Jesus. It wasn't unusual to wash the feet of a guest, but it was unusual to use **very costly oil of spikenard** to do it and to **wipe the feet with her hair**.

- i. Mary was *humble*.

When a guest entered a home, a slave/servant usually washed their feet and smeared with spices/cream. Here, Mary used this precious perfume and **anointed the feet of Jesus**. She considered her precious ointment only good enough for His feet.

To worship God is to humbly do anything and everything in His service.

Luke 22:25 - *And He said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them, and those who exercise authority over them are called 'benefactors.'" "But not so among you; on the contrary, he who is greatest among you, let him be as the younger, and he who governs as he who serves.*

Colossians 3:17 – *And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus giving thanks to God the Father through Him.*

- ii. Mary was *generous*.

She used **very costly oil of spikenard**. Spices and ointments were often used as an investment as they gained value over time and were portable. Judas mentions this oil was worth *300 denarii*, which was worth a year's salary.

1 Chronicles 21:24 – *Then King David said to Ornan, "No, but I will surely buy it for the full price, for I will not take what is yours for the LORD, nor offer burnt offerings with that which costs me nothing.*

Psalms 50: 10-14 – *For every beast of the forest is Mine, and the cattle on a thousand hills. I know all the birds of the mountains, and the wild beasts of the field are Mine. If I were hungry I would not tell you; for the world is Mine, and all its fullness. Will I eat the flesh of bulls and the blood of goats? Offer to God thanksgiving, and pay your vows to the Most High.*

Mark 12:41-44—Now Jesus sat opposite the treasury and saw how the people put in money into the treasury. And many who were rich put in much. Then one poor widow came and threw in two mites, which make a quadrans. So He called His disciples to Himself and said to them, “Assuredly, I say to you that this poor widow has put in more than all those who have given to the treasury; for they put in out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all that she had, her whole livelihood.

Mathew 6:19-21 – Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Revelation 4:8-11 - And the four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day and night saying, “Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come.” Whenever the living creatures give glory and honour and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever, the twenty four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne and worship Him who lives forever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying: You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power, for You created all things, and by Your will they exist and were created.”

Worship is willingly and joyfully giving ourselves and our all to God.

Are we like Mary, humble and giving all in our love for Jesus, or are we like Judas?

II. (9-11) The plot to kill both Jesus and Lazarus.

The **chief priests** were mostly Sadducees, and the Sadducees didn't believe in the resurrection. For them, there was only one solution to this embarrassing problem - **to put Lazarus to death also.**

This made the problem of the chief priests worse. Lazarus was drawing people to Jesus and in the opinion of these religious leaders he had to be stopped.