

**Matthew 26 6-13; Mark 14 3-9; John 12 1-8.**

*Six days before the Passover, Jesus therefore came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. (John 12:1) Here they gave a dinner for him (John 12:2) in the house of Simon the leper. (Mark 14:2) Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those reclining with him at table. (John 12:2) As he was reclining at the table a woman, Mary, came to him with an alabaster flask of very expensive ointment made from pure nard, and she poured it on his head; (then) she anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair. (Matt 26:7; Mark 14:3 & John 12:3) The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. (John 12:3)*

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*And when the disciples saw it, they were indignant, saying “Why this waste?” (Matt26:8) Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (he who was about to betray him), said, “Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii (that is a year’s wages) and given to the poor?” 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 in it. (John 12:4-6) And they scolded her. (Mark 14:5)*

**Matthew 26 6-13; Mark 14 3-9; John 12 1-8.**

*But Jesus said, "Leave her alone. Why do you trouble her? She has done a beautiful thing to me. 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. She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for burial. 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." (Mark 14:6-9)*

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1. What Mary had done was not wasteful but beautiful
2. What Mary had done was not neglecting the poor but Mary was daring to put Jesus first
3. Mary had done what she could
4. Mary poured out the perfume anticipating Jesus' burial
5. Mary's act of generous love would be remembered wherever the gospel is preached

# Summary

- When we serve Jesus wholeheartedly out of our love for him, he sees it as beautiful
- When we put Jesus first everything else we do flows from our love for him and we do it as serving him
- Jesus is pleased when we do what we can
- Remembering Jesus' death for us will lead us to acts of love and devotion
- We may not become famous like Mary; serving Jesus is not done to get recognition from people but from Jesus.





