

John 12:1-24

1-3. Then, six days before the Passover, Jesus came **to Bethany, where Lazarus was** who had been dead, whom He had raised from the dead. **There they made Him a supper**; and Martha served, but Lazarus was one of those who sat at the table with Him. Then Mary took a pound of very costly oil of spikenard, **ANOINTED the feet of Jesus**, and **wiped His feet with her hair**. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the oil.

- **Read Mark 14:1-9** (Verse 3) "And being in _____ at the house of Simon the leper, as He sat at the table, a woman came having an alabaster flask of very _____ oil of spikenard. And she broke the flask and _____ it on His head."
- **Matthew 26:6-7** "And when Jesus was in _____ at the house of Simon the leper, a woman came to Him having an alabaster _____ of very costly fragrant oil, and she _____ it on His _____ as He sat at the table."

Definition: "There they made Him a SUPPER" - In Mark's Gospel, we are told that the supper was held at the house of Simon, the Leper. This Simon is evidently one of the many lepers that **Jesus HEALED during His ministry**. Leprosy was a horrible, painful, incurable disease of Jesus' day, and those who had the disease (lepers) were OUTCASTS from society, because the disease was so contagious. Simon may have been giving the dinner in honor of Jesus out of GRATITUDE, because before Jesus healed him, he would not have been able to invite anyone to his house, because of the possibility of infection to others. Perhaps he had no wife, and that is why Martha was serving.

- **Read Luke 14:12-24** "Then He also said to him who invited Him, 'When you give a _____ or a _____, do not ask your friends, your brothers, your relatives, nor your _____ neighbors, lest they also invite you back, and you be repaid. But when you give a feast, _____ the _____, the maimed, the _____, the _____. And you will be _____, because they cannot repay you; for you shall be repaid at the resurrection of the just.'"

Definition: "ANOINTED the FEET of Jesus" - Mary "broke open" the alabaster bottle of perfumed oil, ANOINTED Jesus' head, and then ANOINTED His feet, and wiped them with her hair! This was an amazing act of love and devotion - even worship. I Corinthians 11:15 says that a **woman's long hair is a "glory" to her**, so Mary was using the most valuable and beautiful thing she had (her hair) to apply an extremely expensive and valuable perfume (worth a year's salary) to Jesus. What made her act even more valuable, though, was the fact that she UNDERSTOOD what was going to happen to Jesus. All of His disciples are either confused or "in denial" at this time about the fact that Jesus told them He would have to die.

- **Mark 14:9** "Assuredly, I say to you, wherever this gospel is _____ throughout the whole _____, what this woman _____ will also be _____ of as a _____ to her."

4-6. Then one of His disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, **who would betray Him**, said, "Why was this fragrant oil not **sold for three hundred denarii** and given to the poor?" This he said, not that he cared for the poor, but because he was a thief, and had the money box; and he used to take what was put in it.

- **John 13:29** "For some thought, because _____ had the _____ box, that Jesus had said to him, 'Buy those things we need for the feast,' or that he should _____ something to the _____."

Definition: "SOLD for THREE HUNDRED denarii" - A denarius was a silver coin. Isn't this interesting? Judas couldn't STAND to see Mary "waste" **300 pieces of silver on Jesus**, when he was only getting **30 pieces of silver for BETRAYING Jesus!** Judas was a THIEF, but his principle sin was **the sin of GREED**, which probably led to his becoming disillusioned with the way Jesus was going about as the Messiah. Judas wanted Jesus to set up an EARTHLY KINGDOM, in which he would have power and wealth.

7-8. Then Jesus said, "Let her alone; **she has kept this for the day of My burial.** For the **poor you have with you always**, but Me you do not have always."

- **Mark 14:8** "She has done what she could. She has come _____ to anoint My _____ for _____."
- **Deuteronomy 15:11** "For the _____ will _____ cease (stop) from the land; therefore I command you, saying, 'You shall open your hand wide to your brother, to your _____ and your _____, in your land.'"
- **Matthew 26:11** "For you have the _____ with you _____, but _____ you do _____ have always."

Definition: "She has kept this for the DAY of My BURIAL" - This was just a few days before Jesus' crucifixion, and Jesus said **she ANOINTED HIM in preparation of His burial.** Perfumed oils were used by the Jews to prepare the dead for burial, to cover the smell of the decaying body. It is interesting that Mary seems to be the only one who understands what Jesus is about to go through. **Why do you think Mary understood the SIGNIFICANCE** of what Jesus had taught them about His coming death and resurrection? Because Luke 10:38-39 tells us that **Mary was the one who SAT at JESUS' FEET and HEARD His WORD!**

9-11. Then a great many of the Jews knew that He was there; and they came, not for Jesus' sake only, but that they might also see Lazarus, whom He had raised from the dead. But the chief priests took counsel that they might **also PUT LAZARUS TO DEATH**, because on account of him many of the Jews went away and believed in Jesus.

- **Luke 16:30-31** "And he said, 'No, father Abraham; but if one goes to them from the _____, they will _____.' But he said to him, 'If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one _____ from the _____.'"

Definition: "The priests took counsel to PUT LAZARUS TO DEATH" - God's word is very clear that there are many people who JUST WILL NOT BELIEVE. It is not because they haven't seen enough miracles, because Jesus said there are some who **"WILL NOT be persuaded even though one rises from the dead"** (Luke 16:31). Obviously, the Pharisees and chief priests were in this category. Rather than fall on their faces and acknowledge Jesus as Messiah, because He proved Himself by raising Lazarus from the dead, they tried all the harder to put Him to death. They wanted to kill Lazarus, too, to get rid of the evidence! Lazarus was a walking, talking testimony of the fact that Jesus was the Son of God!

12-13. The next day a great multitude that had come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, took branches of palm trees and went out to meet Him, and cried out, **"HOSANNA!** Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! **The KING of ISRAEL!** "

- **Psalm 118:25-26** "Save now, I pray, O Lord; O Lord, I pray, send now prosperity. _____ is he who _____ in the _____ of the Lord!"
- **Luke 1:31-33** "And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name _____. He will be great, and will be called the _____ of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the _____ of His father (ancestor) David. And He will _____ over the house of Jacob (Israel) forever, and of His _____ there will be no end."
- **John 1:49** "Nathaniel answered and said, "Rabbi, You are the _____ of _____! You are the _____ of _____!"
- **Read Psalm 2:1-12** (Verse 2) "The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, _____ the Lord and _____ His Anointed (the Christ, Messiah), saying, 'Let us break their bonds in pieces and cast away their cords from us.'" (Verses 6-7) "Yet I have set My _____ on My holy hill of Zion. I will declare the decree: the Lord has said to Me, 'You are My _____, today I have begotten You. Ask of Me, and I will give You the nations for Your inheritance.'"

Definition: "SAVE NOW, I pray, O Lord" - This is what "**Hosanna**" means - "**save now!**" When the people shouted this as Jesus came into Jerusalem, they meant that He was the Messiah, and that He should liberate them from the tyranny of the Romans immediately! However, the very fact that Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey, instead of a horse, was to show them that He was NOT going to be the military hero-type Messiah they wanted.

14-15. Then Jesus, **when He had found a young donkey**, sat on it; as it is written: "Fear not, daughter of Zion; Behold, your King is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt."

- **Read Matthew 21:1-10** "Now when they drew near to Jerusalem, and came to Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, then Jesus _____ two _____, saying to them, 'Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will _____ a _____ tied, and a colt with her. Loose them and bring them to Me. And if anyone says anything to you, you shall say, "The _____ has need of them," and _____ he will _____ them.'"
- **Zechariah 9:9** "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your _____ is _____ to you; He is just and having _____, lowly (humble) and riding on a _____, a colt, the foal of a donkey."

Definition: "You shall say, "The Lord has NEED of them" - What confidence Jesus has! He knows that **the person who OWNS the DONKEYS** will gladly give them to Jesus for His use. Matthew's gospel tells us that the donkeys were tied, so of course, if someone came along and untied them and started walking away with them, it would be stealing! Jesus was not guilty of "grand theft donkey" or even of "joy riding." Rather, **God had it already worked out** that the owner would DONATE his donkeys to Jesus. The work of God's kingdom today would go so much more swiftly and smoothly **if ALL of God's people** were equally as quick and **WILLING to give** of their resources for God's work.

16-19. His disciples **did NOT understand these things at first**; but **when Jesus was GLORIFIED**, then they remembered that **these things were WRITTEN about Him** and that they had done these things to Him. Therefore the people, who were with Him when He called Lazarus out of his tomb and raised him from the dead, bore witness. For this reason the people also met Him, because they heard that He had done this sign. The Pharisees therefore said among themselves, "You see that you are accomplishing nothing. Look, the world has gone after Him!"

- **Read Luke 18:31-34** "Then He took the twelve aside and said to them, 'Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and _____ things that are _____ by the prophets _____ the _____ of Man will be _____.'" (Verse 34) "But they _____ none of these things; this saying was _____ from them, and they did _____ know the things which were spoken."
- **Luke 24:27** "And beginning at _____ and all the _____, He expounded to them in _____ the _____ the things concerning _____."
- **John 7:37-39** "On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to _____ and _____. He who believes in _____, as the Scripture has said, out of his _____ will flow rivers of _____." But this He spoke concerning the _____, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was _____ yet given, because _____ was not yet _____."

Definition: "Jesus was not yet GLORIFIED" - Jesus was speaking about His death and resurrection, which at this point, was yet in the future. **On the Day of Pentecost, AFTER Jesus was "glorified" by His resurrection and ascension to heaven**, the Holy Spirit was GIVEN, and continues to be given, to ALL WHO BELIEVE in Him (II Cor. 1:22 & II Cor. 5:5).

20-24. Now there were certain **Greeks among those who CAME UP to WORSHIP at the feast.** Then they came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida of Galilee, and asked him, saying, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip came and told Andrew, and in turn Andrew and Philip told Jesus. But Jesus answered them, saying, "The hour has come that **the Son of Man should be GLORIFIED.** Most assuredly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and DIES, it remains alone; but **if it DIES, it produces much grain (fruit)** ."

- **I Corinthians 15:36** "Foolish one, what you sow is not made _____ unless it _____."
- **Acts 17:4** "And some of them were persuaded; and a great _____ of the devout _____, and not a few of the leading women, joined Paul and Silas."

Definition: "Greeks among those who CAME UP to WORSHIP at the FEAST" - These were Gentiles, either converts to Judaism, or just what was called "God-fearing Gentiles." They were allowed to go into the Court of the Gentiles in the Temple, which was the court from which Jesus drove the money changers, because they were taking up all the room that was supposed to be for Gentiles to come to worship and hear the word of God.

- **Read I Kings 8:38-43** (Verses 41-43) "Moreover, concerning a _____, who is _____ of Your _____ Israel, but has _____ from a far _____ for Your name's sake (for they will hear of Your great name and Your strong hand and Your outstretched arm), when he _____ and _____ toward this temple, hear in heaven Your dwelling place, and do according to all for which the foreigner calls to You, that all peoples of the earth may know Your name and fear You, as do Your people _____, and that they may know that this _____ which I have built is called by Your name."
- **Read Mark 11:15-17** (Verse 17) "Then He taught, saying to them, 'Is it not written, My _____ shall be called a house of _____ for all _____? But you have made it a _____ of _____.'" "

Definition: "If it DIES, it produces much grain" - Jesus is referring to His own death, which will open the way for ALL PEOPLE to be saved, producing a great harvest for God.