

The Gospel According to John: That You May Believe

Lesson 19: Jesus Anointed at Bethany

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Review

The public ministry of Jesus was wrapping up at this time as the Passover drew near. From the synoptics, note that between 11:54 & 55 Jesus started his final journey to Jerusalem, healing ten lepers along the way. He also gave two parables on prayer, taught on divorce, received little children, spoke with the rich, young ruler, prophesied again regarding his pending death, healed Bartimaeus, visited Zacchaeus, and gave the parable of the pounds. Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem and the passion week are not long in coming.

Jesus Anointed at Bethany (John 12:1-11)

► Explore It

1. When did Jesus arrive in Bethany? (12:1)
- * 2. What was done in honor of Jesus in Bethany? (12:2)
3. What did Mary do to Jesus? (12:3)
- * 4. How did Judas respond to Mary's act? (12:4-5)
5. What motivated Judas's response to Mary's act? (12:6)
- * 6. Why did Jesus say that Mary had anointed Him with perfume? (12:7)
7. What did Jesus say about the poor? (12:8)
8. Why did the large crowd come to Mary and Martha's home? (12:9)
9. What did the chief priests plan to do? (12:10)
10. What motive did the chief priests have? (12:11)

► Get It

- * 11. What concern should we have for the poor among us?
12. In what way can we help those less fortunate than ourselves?
13. Why are there poor people?
- * 14. How do people selfishly use God's resources for their own pleasure?
15. How do people mask their selfishness with the appearance of concern for others?

► Apply It

- * 16. How can you honor God with your resources today?
17. How can you help someone less fortunate than yourself this week?
- * 18. How do you deal with the tension of helping people in need while enjoying your wealth and possessions as blessings from God?

Related Questions

- * Is there reason to believe that the Lazarus family was wealthy? Please explain.
- * What are some ways in which this anointing is different from the one in Luke 7:36-50?
- * What insight does this incident give us regarding the heart of Judas Iscariot?
- * In what sense would Mary “keep it” when she had already poured it out on Jesus?

Note: Study guides for this series of lessons are available on the Internet at www.howellfamily.us/john.htm