

PASSION WEEK WEDNESDAY
3/27/2002

MARK 14:1-11

TAPE NUMBER JH 000 MARCH 27, 2002

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“In The Valley of Decision”

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Apologetics, The Gospel, Passion Week, Decision

INTRODUCTION

to the text

Mark 14:1-11

The Text Summation

The events of this week in history can almost be looked at as a week that sums up the whole of humanity and human history itself.

Everything that Jesus had said. Everything that Jesus had done, was to bring each man and woman, boy and girl to a place of decision.

THE DECISIONS AND CHOICES WE MAKE ARE OURS

John 12:31-33

"Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out. 32 "And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw all peoples to Myself." 33 This Jesus said, signifying by what manner of death He would die.

The Days, The Events, Personified

On Palm Sunday

A King Presented – *A Call of Invitation*
An Invitation – *to come and know the king!*

On Passion Monday

The Cleansing of the Temple – *A Call to Holiness*
Holiness – *we can now be holy in christ!*

On Passion Tuesday

The Teaching of the Kingdom – *A Call to Knowing God*
Knowledge of God – *the eternal God can be known personally!*

On Passion Wednesday

The Opportunity to Worship – *A Call to Bless Him*
Adoration – *we can anoint Him as our lover!*

On Passion Thursday

The Security of Believer – *A Call to Unity / Abiding*
Fellowship – *Jesus Christ calls us to be one with Him and the Father!*

On Passion Friday

The Work of Christ – *A Call to Take it in*
Thankfulness & Gratitude – *Jesus went to the cross in my place!*

On Passion Saturday

His Rest – *A Call to Relax in Christ's Finished Work*
Peace – *all was silent now, Jesus had finished the work of redemption!*

Passion Week **A Thumbnail Sketch of the Believer and Christ**

Joel 3:13-14

Put in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe. Come, go down; for the winepress is full, the vats overflow-- for their wickedness is great." 14 Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! For the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision.

Our Text Before - in History

On Passion Wednesday

The Opportunity to Worship – *A Call to Bless Him*

Adoration – *we can anoint Him as the Lover of our Souls!*

1.) Worship - in the face opposition

vv. 1-5

On the night of the very first Passover, the children of Israel spent that night in fear. The fear wasn't so much of what God was doing, but of what Egypt might do. Worship was, is something that the world hates.

In Jesus' Day
There was The "Behind the Scene Plots"

Opposition

a.) The World will always seek to stop worship

vv. 1-2

After two days it was the Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread. And the chief priests and the scribes sought how they might take Him by trickery and put Him to death. 2 But they said, "Not during the feast, lest there be an uproar of the people."

Hypocrisy and Opposition go Hand in Hand

THE WORLD REJECTS WHO JESUS REALLY IS
THE WORLD REJECTS HIS MESSAGE
THE WORLD CANNOT SEE HIS VALUE

Luke 19:39-40

And some of the Pharisees called to Him from the crowd, "Teacher, rebuke Your disciples." 40 But He answered and said to them, "I tell you that if these should keep silent, the stones would immediately cry out."

Opposition

b.) *The Christian must always invest in worship vv. 3*

And being in Bethany at the house of Simon the leper, as Jesus sat at the table, and a woman **came / having** an alabaster flask of very costly oil of spikenard. Then she **broke** the flask and **poured** it on His head.

Expound Upon Her Heart of Worship

We're to be investing in worship

Meditate upon his goodness / **Think** about what he has done
Get excited about what he is going to do / **Plan** on great things

No Doubt She Had Done This

Deut 16:14

"And you shall rejoice in your feast, you and your son and your daughter, your male servants and your female servants and the Levite, the stranger and the fatherless and the widow, who are within your gates.

We're to be investing in worship

Exod 33:9-10

And it came to pass, when Moses entered the tabernacle, that the pillar of cloud descended and stood at the door of the tabernacle, and the LORD talked with Moses. 10 All the people saw the pillar of cloud standing at the tabernacle door, and all the people rose and worshiped, each man in his tent door.

Heb 13:15

Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name.

We're to be investing in worship

Opposition

c.) The Hypocrites within will put up a stink vv. 4-5

But there were some who were indignant among themselves, and said, "Why was this fragrant oil wasted? 5 "For it might have been sold for more than three hundred denarii and given to the poor." And they criticized her sharply.

***Our "True" Worship
Should expose the false, the pretend, the Fake***

They Didn't Care About the Poor, They Only Cared About the Money

Isn't Jesus Worthy of Our...
Things? / Attention? / Energy? / Money? / Time?

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Who's He to Say That?

My Things? / My Attention? / My Energy? / My Money? / My Time?

It's None of His Business – that is true – it's all God's business!!!

2.) Worship – it's a prized possession to God vv. 6-9

6 But Jesus said them, "Let her alone. Why do you trouble her? She has done a good work for Me. 7 "For you have the poor with you always, and whenever you wish you may do them good; but Me you do not have always. 8 "She has done what she could. She has come beforehand to anoint My body for burial. 9 "Assuredly, I say to you, wherever this gospel is preached in the whole world, what this woman has done will also be told as a memorial to her."

a prized possession

a.) Our worship is worthy of His defense vv. 6a

But Jesus said them, "Let her alone. Why do you trouble her?"

**Jesus Comes to Her Side
in Defense of Her Offering**

**THIS IS A GOOD THING TO KNOW
God Defends His Worshipers**

Ps 62:6

He only is my rock and my salvation; he is my defense;
I shall not be moved.

Ps 59:16-17

But I will sing of Your power; yes, I will sing aloud of Your mercy in the morning; for You have been my defense and refuge in the day of my trouble. To You, O my Strength, I will sing praises; for God is my defense, my God of mercy.

a prized possession

b.) Our worship is honoring to Him

vv. 6b

She has done... a good work for Me

God sees worship as a presentation. It is both personal but public.
It is quiet and loud. It is still and it is expressive.

good (meaning - beautiful) and work (meaning - act)

Every Time we Worship - We Honor the Lord

a prized possession

c.) Our worship is a delight to Him

vv. 8

*"She has done what she could.
She has come beforehand to anoint My body for burial*

*A.W.Tozer entitled a book;
"God tells the man who cares"*

God Enlightens a Man who is a Worshipper

Matt 21:14-16

Then the blind and the lame came to Him in the temple, and He healed them. But when the chief priests and scribes saw the wonderful things that He did, and the children crying out in the temple and saying, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" they were indignant and said to Him, "Do You hear what these are saying?" And Jesus said to them, "Yes. Have you never read, 'Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants you have perfected praise?'"

3.) *Worship will always be costly*

vv. 10-11

Then Judas Iscariot, one of the twelve, went to the chief priests to betray Him to them. 11 And when they heard it, they were glad, and promised to give him money. So he sought how he might conveniently betray Him.

Costly

a.) *It's costly because it's heartfelt*

vv. 10

Then Judas Iscariot, one of the twelve, went to the chief priests to betray Him to them.

REAL WORSHIP WILL PREVENT US FROM BETRAYAL

This Tells Me That Judas
was Never Really a Worshipper at Heart

There is Right Worship

John 4:23-24

"But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. 24 "God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

Costly

b.) *It's costly because it's priceless*

vv. 11a

And when they heard it, they were glad,
and promised to give him money

Lustful Emotions

Deceive us and taint our thinking about Reality

WORSHIP IS PRICELESS

Costly

c.) *It's costly because it's unique*

vv. 11b

So he sought how he might **conveniently** betray Him.

Conveniently grk 2122 eukairos (yoo-kah'-ee-roce);
That which is *easiest*. The *seasonal* thing to do, the
easier or *easiest* path.

TRUE WORSHIP IS RARE BECAUSE IT'S A HEART THING

TRUE WORSHIP IS RARE BECAUSE IT'S A MIND THING

TRUE WORSHIP IS RARE BECAUSE IT'S A BODY THING

TRUE WORSHIP IS RARE BECAUSE IT'S A LIFE THING

The Day The Temple was Readied for Worship

1 Chr 16:7-36

And on that day David first delivered this psalm into the hand of Asaph the worship leader and his brethren, It was for to thank the LORD: 8" Oh, give thanks to the LORD! Call upon His name; make known His deeds among the nations! 9 Sing to Him, sing psalms to Him; talk of all His wondrous works! 10 Glory in His holy name; let the hearts of those rejoice who seek the LORD! 11 Seek the LORD and His strength; seek His face evermore! 12 Remember His marvelous works which He has done, his wonders, and the judgments of His mouth, 13 O seed of Israel His servant, you children of Jacob, His chosen ones! 14 He is the LORD our God; his judgments are in all the earth. 15 Remember His covenant forever, the word which He commanded, for a thousand generations, 16 The covenant which He made with Abraham, and His oath to Isaac, 17 And confirmed it to Jacob for a statute, to Israel for an everlasting covenant, 18 Saying, "To you I will give the land of Canaan as the allotment of your inheritance," 19 When you were few in number, indeed very few, and strangers in it. 20 When they went from one nation to another, and from one kingdom to another, 21 He permitted no man to do them wrong; yes, He rebuked kings for their sakes, 22 Saying, "Do not touch My anointed ones, and do My prophets no harm." 23 Sing to the LORD, all the earth; proclaim the good news of His salvation from day to day. 24 Declare His glory among the nations, his wonders among all peoples. 25 For the LORD is great and greatly to be praised; he is also to be feared above all other gods. 26 For all the gods of the nations are idols, but the LORD made the heavens. 27 Honor and majesty are before Him; strength and gladness are in His place. 28 Give to the LORD, O families of the nations, give to the LORD glory and strength. 29 Give to the LORD the glory due His name; bring an offering, and come before Him. Oh, worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness! 30 Tremble before Him, all the earth. The world also is firmly established, it shall not be moved. 31 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; and let them say among the nations, "The LORD reigns." 32 Let the sea roar, and all its fullness; let the field rejoice, and all that is in it. 33 Then the trees of the woods shall rejoice before the LORD, for He is coming to judge the earth. 34 Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever. 35 And say, "Save us, O God of our salvation; gather us together, and deliver us from the Nations, to give thanks to Your holy name, to triumph in Your praise." 36 Blessed be the LORD God of Israel from everlasting to everlasting"

And all the people said, "Amen!" and they praised the LORD.