

THE GOSPEL *of* JOHN

CHAPTER 12:1-11

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“Lord, Teach us to Worship” - Part 1

THE THEME OF THE BOOK:

John 1:12

But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:

TOPICAL SUBJECT SEARCH KEYWORDS:

Worship, Anointing, Martha, Lazarus, Mary

INTRODUCTION

to the text

John 12:1-11

The Scriptures are clear as to us learning how to pray. Even the disciples when they saw Jesus praying to the Father, they saw an example that they themselves wanted to mimic and so coming to Jesus they ask of Jesus...

Lord, Teach Us to Pray

And Jesus gives them “the pattern” for prayer. Not the prayer itself, but the pattern for prayer!

But Regarding Worship,

The instructions are not so not defined – why?

Worship is the self-expression toward the divine God

Lord, Teach us to Worship

1.) *The Preparation for Worship*

vv. 1-3

1 Then, six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus was who had been dead, whom He had raised from the dead. 2 There they made Him a supper; and Martha served, but Lazarus was one of those who sat at the table with Him. 3 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.

All of Israel had gathered at Jerusalem

for the Passover Season, Israel's greatest feast of the Jewish calendar. This was one of the three required feasts of the Lord that every Jewish male was obliged to "Come up" to Jerusalem to worship.

The worship involved

- 1.) A willing heart
- 2.) A desire to be acceptable before God
- 3.) And a life that longed for change

It was a time of atonement for sins, both as a nation and as an individual.

Exodus 12:21

Then Moses called for all the elders of Israel and said to them, "Pick out and take lambs for yourselves according to your families, and kill the Passover lamb.

Psalm 116:17-19

I will offer to You the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and will call upon the name of the LORD. 18 I will pay my vows to the LORD now in the presence of all His people, 19 In the courts of the LORD'S house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Praise the LORD!

Worship Begins With Appreciation Directed Toward God

The Preparation for Worship

a.) *Is cultivating a grateful heart*

v.1-2a

1 Then, six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus was who had been dead, whom He had raised from the dead. 2 There, they made Him a supper;

this was a celebration very much in line with the events surrounding Jerusalem – out of death, life has come

Cultivating

they were appreciating Jesus for what He had done

Psalm 100:3-4

Know that the LORD, He is God; it is He who has made us, and not we ourselves; we are His people and the sheep of His pasture. 4 Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name.

Turn From the Trusting in Man and Self – To God

Hosea 10:12-13

Sow for yourselves righteousness; reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground, for it is time to seek the LORD, till He comes and rains righteousness on you. 13 You have plowed wickedness; you have reaped iniquity. You have eaten the fruit of lies, because you trusted in your own way, in the multitude of your mighty men.

**REPENTANCE IS THE PATH TOWARD
SPIRITUAL HEALING**

The Preparation for Worship

b.) Being willing to express your worship

v.2b-3a

and Martha **served**, but Lazarus was one of those who **sat** at the table with Him. 3 Then Mary took a pound of very costly oil of spikenard, **anointed** the feet of Jesus, and wiped His feet with her hair.

Once Having Been Prepared – We Come Willing to Express our Love
Our Worship is Expressed, Personally

Martha did so by **Serving**

Lazarus did so by **Resting**

Mary did so by **Anointing**

Verse 2b-3a

anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped His feet with her hair.

EXPRESSION

It was forbidden for a woman to wear her hair down in that culture unless you were a prostitute. It was a symbol of being familiar or casual with someone like a spouse.

What was in Mary's heart?

Isaiah 54:5

For your Maker is your husband, the LORD of hosts is His name; and your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel; he is called the God of the whole earth.

What was in Mary's mind?

Psalm 9:1

I will praise You, O LORD, with my whole heart; I will tell of all Your marvelous works.

What was in Mary's hand?

Psalm 72:11

Yes, even kings shall fall down before Him; all nations shall serve Him.

Moses Said

Deuteronomy 6:5

"You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.

Jesus Said

Mark 12:30

'And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.' This is the first commandment.

The Preparation for Worship

c.) Looking for the most costly gift

v.3b

Then Mary took a pound of very costly oil of spikenard, **anointed** the feet of Jesus, and wiped His feet with her hair.

...Then Mary took a **pound** of very costly oil of spikenard.....

- are you **tired**? - Anoint Him with worship
- are you **stressed**? - Anoint Him with worship
- are you **troubled**? - Anoint Him with worship
- are you **hurting**? - Anoint Him with worship
- are you in **need**? - Anoint Him with worship

But Jack What is Worship?

It is giving that which is very costly. It is giving God that which is **rare** and **personal** and what you consider **lovely**!

It is a deliberate sacrifice

of what you love the most

2 Corinthians 9:6-7

But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. 7 So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.

Willing Worshippers

Exodus 35:5-7

5 'Take from among you an offering to the LORD. Whoever is of a willing heart, let him bring it as an offering to the LORD: gold, silver, and bronze; 6 'blue purple, and scarlet thread, fine linen, and goats' hair; 7 'ram skins dyed red, badger skins, and acacia wood... when's it end? - Never

A True, Sacrifice of Praise and Worship

2 Samuel 24:22-24

Now Araunah said to David, "Let my lord the king take and offer up whatever seems good to him. Look, here are oxen for burnt sacrifice, and threshing implements and the yokes of the oxen for wood. 23 "All these, O king, Araunah has given to the king." And Araunah said to the king, "May the LORD your God accept you." 24 Then the king said to Araunah, "No, but I will surely buy it from you for a price; nor will I offer burnt offerings to the LORD my God with that which costs me nothing." So David bought the threshing floor and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver.

!!! But Look at What True Worship Provides !!!

THE RESULTS AND INFLUENCE OF TRUE WORSHIP

It affects the atmosphere around you

...And the house was **filled with the fragrance** of the oil.

...she **anointed** the feet of Jesus, and **wiped** His feet with her hair

*

anointed **218 aleipho (al-i'-fo);**
to bathe, cover, douse with “perfumed oil”

In Old Testament Times

It was a symbol of the coming upon of the Holy Spirit in one’s life.
It spoke of complete and full surrender to God and His will.

Example of Anointing

1 Samuel 16:12-13

So he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, with bright eyes, and good-looking. And the LORD said, "Arise, anoint him; for this is the one!" 13 Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward.

Lord, Teach us to Worship

2.) *The Price to Worship*

vv. 4-6

4 Then one of His disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, who would betray Him, said,
5 "Why was this fragrant oil not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?"
6 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.

The Price to Worship

a.) *Some will seek to mock you*

v. 4-5a

4 Then one of His disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, who would betray Him, said,
5 "Why was this fragrant oil not sold for three hundred denarii

three hundred denarii
((at 1999 Dollars, that equals \$11,000.00))
the average pay was 1 denarii per day
making this equivalent to nearly one year income

“that’s alot of money”

look at what you are doing with your time, your children,
your family, your life, your money

Matthew 6:24

"No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.

but you can serve God with money

Luke 20:45-21:4

Then, in the hearing of all the people, He said to His disciples, 46 "Beware of the scribes, who desire to walk in long robes, love greetings in the marketplaces, the best seats in the synagogues, and the best places at feasts, 47 "who devour widows' houses, and for a pretense make long prayers. These will receive greater condemnation."

IN LUKE 21:1-4

And He looked up and saw the rich putting their gifts into the treasury, 2 and He saw also a certain poor widow putting in two mites. 3 So He said, "Truly I say to you that this poor widow has put in more than all; 4 "for all these out of their abundance have put in offerings for God, but she out of her poverty put in all the livelihood that she had."

“she was mocked by the big givers”

Harry Ironside,
The Offering, And The Big Old Indian in the Dakotas

The Price to Worship

b.) Others will devalue your devotion

v.5b

and given to the poor?"

Judas is now the judge, "Judge Judas"
as to the direction and value of ministry/worship

What you're doing is O.K – but I'm reaching the
Fill in the Blank

My Ministry is to the Poor, the Rich, the Homeless, the Whites, the
Blacks, The Fill in the Blank

But Just Because God Has Called you to Reach the Homeless doesn't mean that I am to reach the
homeless - just like you may not be called the reach the rich.

Have You Ever Tried to Reach The Rich?
(it's the most difficult!)

some will seek to devalue your devotion

The Price to Worship

c.) Most will never understand

v.6

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.

...That worship is to cost us something dearly, It's to require of us
that which we hold valuable.

It's be to more than what we can afford

Love Acts This Way;

The Time, The effort, and The expense, are only things that help you to better express
what sits upon your hearts throne.

Remember, Judas was going to hell,
and he was going to take as much money with him as possible.
– he couldn't see the value in Mary's heart

Is Judas a Type of Those who are in Hell Today?

The kind of People who mocked and made Fun of Jesus and those who Worship Him

Lord, Teach us to Worship

3.) *The Priority in Worship*

vv. 7-8

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

The Priority within Worship

a.) *We worship before we work*

v.7

Then Jesus said, "**Let her alone; she has kept this for the day of My burial.**"

Did Mary intuitively know that Jesus was approaching His death?

Did Mary sense that something was about to happen?

True Worshipers, God will speak to

Consider the times in which you and I live. If you are a worshipper – you are discerning the times and seasons

1Thessalonians 5:1-6

But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. 2 For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. 3 For when they say, "Peace and safety!" then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape. 4 But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief. 5 You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness. 6 Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober.

God Speaks to His Worshipers

1 Corinthians 2:9-10

But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him." 10 But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God.

The Priority within Worship

b.) We serve Jesus before all others

v.8

"For the poor you have with you always, but Me you do not have always.

We Will Always Have This Worlds Problems

#1

Make sure that you serve HIM in worship first!

#2

Make sure that you're doing what you are doing selfishly for HIM

#3

Make sure that JESUS, JESUS, JESUS, is the reason why you serve

Lord, Teach us to Worship

4) The Perception of Worship

vv. 9-11

9 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. 10 But the chief priests plotted to put Lazarus to death also, 11 because on account of him many of the Jews went away and believed in Jesus.

a.) Some will ignore worship

Ignore and neglect

b.) Some will look on

v.9

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

Spectators, but not worshippers

Psalm 5:7

But as for me, I will come into Your house in the multitude of Your mercy; in fear of You
I will worship toward Your holy temple.

The Perception of Worship

c.) Some will refuse

v.10-11

But the chief priests plotted to put Lazarus to death also,

To Not Worship Him –
is to set the stage for self destruction

Who Will Be in Heaven?

Only the Worshippers of God

Verse 11

because on account of Lazarus
many of the Jews **went away believing in Jesus.**

end