

uncage it; He would give it liberty and range of wing. Deeds like Mary's are essentially sacramental. The Master approves them as deeds of monumental goodness.

Nor do we need to fear that deeds like this will take anything away, either from the desire or the ability to respond to the pressing necessities of the world's unfortunates. No charitable institution will suffer in its funds because grateful love permits itself an occasional lavishment in the form of a thank-offering. It is not the hand which sheds the spikenard upon the peerless friend that will deny a charity to the friendless poor. The sudden swelling of the tide of gratitude, sweeping like a torrent through the soul, deepens and clears the channel for charity's continuous and normal flow. Mary gives her guineas to the poor whilst Judas steals the pennies which parsimony puts into the bag.