

THE ANOINTING IN BETHANY

Lesson II.

John 12 : 1-11—Memory Verses 1-3

April 9, 1899

1. Then Je'sus six days before the passover came to Beth'any, where Laz'arus was which had been dead, whom he raised from the dead.

2. There they made him a supper; and Mar'tha served: but Laz'arus was one of them that sat at table with him.

3. Then took Mary a pound of ointment of spikenard, very costly, and anointed the feet of Je'sus, and wiped his feet with her hair: and the house was filled with the odour of the ointment.

4. Then saith one of his disciples, Ju'das Is'cariot, Si'mon's son, which should betray him,

5. Why was not this ointment sold for three hundred pence, 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 bag, and bare what was put therein.

7. Then said Je'sus, Let her alone: against the day of my burying hath she kept this.

8. For the poor always ye have with you; but me ye have not always.

9. Much people of the Jews therefore knew that he was there: and they came not for Je'sus' sake only, but that they might see Laz'arus also, whom he had raised from the dead.

10. But the chief priests consulted that they might put Laz'arus also to death;

11. Because that by reason of him many of the Jews went away, and believed on Je'sus.

THE LESSON RETOLD

Soon after Lazarus was raised from the dead Jesus and His disciples came to the village of Bethany again.



This time a man called Simon made a party and invited Jesus to his house. Lazarus was invited, too, and Martha was there helping to wait on the guests.

While they were sitting at the table, Mary came into the room. She had something in her hand that had cost a great deal of money. It was a little white box of sweet-smelling ointment called spikenard.

She went right over to the place where Jesus was sitting and poured the perfume on His feet. Then she wiped His feet with her hair. John says that the whole house was filled with the sweet smell.

Mary took this way of showing how much she loved Jesus. Perhaps she felt, too, that He would soon be taken away from them.

Jesus was pleased with what she had done, and said it would be always remembered about her.

Judas, who carried the money that Jesus and His disciples needed, and who sometimes stole some of it, pretended to be very angry. He said it was waste, and that the perfume might have been sold for a great deal and the money given away to poor people. He said this because he was a thief, and not because he loved the poor.

Jesus said they would always have a chance to be kind to poor people, but that very soon He would have to leave them.

He meant that the time for Him to die was getting very near. He knew that wicked men were looking for Him, and that some of them were at Simon's house that day.

There were a great many people there. Most of them had come because they wanted to see Lazarus, who had been dead, and was now alive again.

Many of the people believed that Jesus was indeed God when they saw Lazarus alive and well, and this made the chief priests angry; and on their way home they made wicked plans to kill Lazarus, and Jesus, too, if they could.