

GOLDEN TEXT

Mark 14: 8. She hath done what she could.

DAILY READINGS

M. —Matt. 26: 6-16. Jesus anointed at Bethany.

T. —Luke 7: 36-47. A sinner's gratitude.

W. —Luke 10: 38-42. The good part.

Th. —Deut. 15: 7-11. Duty to the poor.

F. —1 John 4: 9-19. He first loved us.

S. —Phil. 3: 1-12. All for Christ.

S. —John 12: 1-11. A costly gift.

CATECHISM

Q. 57. Which is the fourth commandment?

A. The fourth commandment is, Remember the sabbath day to keep it holy. [For the Fourth Commandment in full, see Exodus 20: 8-11 or in the Shorter Catechism itself.]

FOR FURTHER STUDY

Juniors—6 Where was Bethany? How long before the Passover when Jesus reached there? (John 12: 1.) Which year? Which month? How long before His death? Who were present at the feast? John 12: 2, 3.) What part had Martha? Lazarus?

7, 8 What honor done to Jesus by Mary? What was the value of the ointment? Why did Mary anoint Jesus? With what did she wipe His feet? (John 12: 3.) Who objected to Mary's act? Which one especially? (John 12: 4.) What question asked?

9, 10 What reason given? Did Jesus think the same? What was His rebuke? What does He call Mary's offering.

11 What did Christ say about the poor? What hint given about Himself? How does Jesus regard personal service? (Matt. 23: 40.)

12, 13 How did He regard Mary's act? What is the Golden Text? How long would this act be remembered? How widely?

14-16 To whom did Judas Iscariot go? For what object? What office did he hold among the twelve? (John 12: 6.) What bargain was made? What is the value of the "thirty pieces of silver"? For what did Jesus then seek?

Seniors and the Home Department—6, 7 In to-day's lesson, who did the anointing? The complaining? The commending? The plotting? Where was the supper given? Who the chief guest? On what occasions did Jesus go to Bethany? (Matt. 21: 17; Matt. 26: 6; Mark 11: 1; Luke 19: 29; Luke 24: 50.) What was spikenard?

8, 9 What pretext made by the disciples? How did Christ regard hypocrites? (Matt. 23: 13, 14).

TIME AND PLACE

The beginning of the last week of our Lord's life on earth. Saturday evening (the Jewish Sabbath) April 1, A.D. 30, and in the house of Simon the leper at Bethany, near Jerusalem.

LESSON PLAN

I. The Woman's Love, 3, 7.

Shown in the anointing of Jesus' head.

II. The Disciples' Indignation, 8, 9.

Because of the supposed waste of the ointment.

III. The Master's Praise, 10-13.

He commends the woman's act of faith and love.

IV. The Traitor's Plot, 14-16.

With the chief priests for the betrayal of his Master.

LESSON HYMNS

Book of Praise, 471; 70 (1's, Sel.); 180; 214; 238; 598.

10-12 Why does Jesus praise Mary's act? What led Mary to do this act? What lesson taught us about showing our love to the Saviour? About giving our best to Him? How can we best honor Christ?

13 How lasting was Mary's act?

14-16 What had the chief priests long been conspiring? Who now helped them? In what way? At what price? What was the chief sin of Judas? (John 12: 3.) To what did it lead him? Contrast Mary's act of love with the acts of the chief priests and Judas.

Prove from Scripture—That Christ remembers loving service.

Practical Points—1. It is truly "sweet home," when Jesus is a welcome guest; and there is no more companionable friend than He.

2. Our dearest possession is never too precious to bestow on the One to whom we have given our deepest love.

"Love took up the harp of Life, smote the cords with might;

Smote the chord of self, that, trembling, passed in music out of sight."

3. It matters little what men think, if Christ approves.

4. The most costly monument can form no real memorial; it is our deeds, good or bad, that keep us alive in the memory of others.

5. Let us beware what spirit we cherish. In the supreme moment of Judas' life, greed conquered, because he had allowed that spirit to rule his ordinary acts.

6. Mary gave all, and the Master's blessing was her reward. Judas gave nothing, and so lost all.

FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS

1. Describe Mary's act of love.

2. The indignation of the disciples.

3. The treachery of Judas.