

Lesson IV.

JESUS ANOINTED AT BETHANY

April 22, 1917

John 12:1-11. *Scripture Memory Verse, Gen. 21:16.

Golden Text—She hath done what she could.—Mark 14:8.

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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 the table with him.

3 Then took Mar'y 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 Iscar'iot, 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

You know the happy home in Bethany where the sisters, Mary and Martha, lived,—that home where Jesus loved to visit. You know all about Lazarus' sickness and death, and how Jesus raised him from the grave and gave him back alive again to the dear sisters. The sisters heard that the dear master whom they loved, was coming again to Bethany, and they were so eager to do something for him. There were other friends of Jesus in the village. One of these was a man named Simon. Simon, too, wanted to show Jesus how much he loved him, and so made a supper for Jesus at his home. The house was larger than the other houses in the village, so there was room for all Jesus' friends to gather in it.

Martha knew how to make all kinds of nice things to eat, so she made a very good supper, and she herself waited upon the

guests at the table. How glad she was to give Jesus the very best of everything! This was Martha's way of showing her love. Lazarus just sat near Jesus, and listened to every word he said.

Mary was gentle and shy, but she took her own way of showing her love to Jesus. She bought a jar of very costly perfume. The little jar which held it was made of white alabaster. This perfume cost a great many dollars—over three hundred dollars! Mary took the perfume to Simon's house, and while the supper was going on, she slipped quietly in and poured the precious perfume over Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her long, dark hair. In that country the people did not wear shoes like ours. They wore sandals, which were like soles of boots, tied on their feet. When they came into a house they

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