

## LESSON II.

## THE ANOINTING IN BETHANY

April 9, 1899

John 12: 1-11. Commit to memory vs. 1-3. Compare Matt. 26: 1-13 and Mark 14: 3-9.

1. Then (1) Jesus six days before the passover came to Bethany, where Lazarus (2) was which had been dead, whom he raised from the dead.

9 (3) There they made him a supper; and Martha served; but Lazarus was one of them that sat (4) at the table with him.

3. Then (5) took Mary a pound of ointment of spikenard, very (6) costly, and anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped his feet with her hair: and the house was filled with the odour of the ointment.

4. Then (7) saith one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, which should betray him,

6. Why was not this ointment sold for three hundred pence, and given to the poor?

6. This he said, not (8) that he cared for the poor;

but because he was a thief, and (9) had the bag, and bare what was put therein.

7. Then said (10) Jesus, 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 (11) people of the Jews therefore knew that he was there; and they came not for Jesus sake only, but that they might see Lazarus also, whom he had raised from the dead.

10. But the chief priests (12) consulted that they might put Lazarus also to death;

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

**Revised Version.**—(1) Jesus therefore; (2) Where Lazarus was, whom Jesus raised from the dead; (3) So they made him a supper there; (4) At meat; (5) Mary therefore took; (6) Precious; (7) But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples, which should betray him, saith; (8) Because; (9) Having the bag, took away what was put therein; (10) Jesus therefore said, Suffer her to keep it against the day of my burying; (11) The common people . . . learned; (12) Took counsel.

## GOLDEN TEXT

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

## DAILY READINGS

M.—John 12: 1-11. The Anointing in Bethany.

T.—Mark 14: 1-9. Christ's commendation.

W.—Luke 7: 36-50. Grateful love.

Th.—Luke 10: 38-42. The good part.

F.—Phil. 3: 1-12. All for Christ.

S.—Mark 12: 34-41. All she had.

Sp.—1 John 4: 10-19. "He first loved us."

## LESSON PLAN

THE ANOINTING IN BETHANY

I. Mary Anoints, 1-3.

Pouring very costly ointment on Jesus' feet.

II. Judas Complains, 4-6.

Because he wanted the money for himself.

III. Jesus Commends, 7-8.

Because Mary's act showed her sympathy and love.

IV. The Chief Priests Plot, 9-11.

They wish to put Lazarus to death.

## TIME

Saturday evening, April 1, A. D. 30, the first part of the last week of Christ's life on earth.

## PLACE

Bethany and the house of Simon the Leper.

## CATECHISM

Q. 54 What is required in the third commandment?

A. The third commandment requireth the holy and reverent use of God's names, titles, attributes, ordinances, word, and works.

## LESSON HYMNS

(Book of Praise) 43, (Ps.) 183, 50, 535, 575.

## CONNECTION

The raising of Lazarus from the dead led some of the Jews to believe (Ch. 11: 45), but it roused the fierce enmity of the Pharisees, who, with the chief priests, set themselves to bring about His death. He withdrew, therefore, to Ephraim, on the edge of the wilderness, about thirteen miles north of Jerusalem.

## EXPLANATION

**1. Six days before the Passover.** (Ch. 11: 55); probably Friday, March 31. **Came to Bethany.** It was a delightful resting place.

**2. They made Him a supper.** The village banqueted Jesus at the house of Simon the Leper (Matt. 26: 6). Lazarus had a chief place beside his Lord, and Martha, as was her habit, served (Luke 10: 40).

**3. Then took Mary.** As usual, at the feet of Jesus. (Compare Lu. 10: 39; Jno. 11: 32.) **Ointment of Spikenard;** very costly ointment of delicious odor, made from the head or spike of a fragrant East Indian plant. **Anointed the feet of Jesus.** Matthew (Ch. 26: 7) and Mark (Ch. 14: 3)

said that she anointed His head; his head, certainly, but his feet also, and John records this last, which was what most impressed him.

**5. Why . . . not sold;** instead of being wasted. **Three hundred pence,** \$50, a penny being about 17 cents, or a day's wage for a laborer.

**6. Not that he cared for the poor.** Judas loved the poor no more than he loved his Saviour. He carried the money-bag and saw here a chance for pilfering.

**7. Let her alone.** Some of the other disciples, although honest, were also led into the same mistake as Judas (Matt. 26: 8.) Jesus defends Mary. **Against the day of my burying.** A strange saying. Mary,