

Lesson I.

CHRIST ANOINTED FOR BURIAL

October 4, 1914

Mark 14 : 1-11—*Memory Verses, 8, 9.

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

1 After two days was *the feast* of the pass-over, and of unleavened bread : and the chief priests and the scribes sought how they might take him by craft, and put him to death.

2 But they said, Not on the feast day, lest there be an uproar of the people.

3 And being in Beth'any in the house of Si'mon the leper, as he sat at meat, there came a woman having an alabaster box of ointment of spikenard very precious ; and she brake the box, and poured it on his head.

4 And there were some that had indignation within themselves, and said, Why was this waste of the ointment made ?

5 For it might have been sold for more than three hundred pence, and have been given to the poor. And they murmured against her.

6 And Je'sus said, Let her alone ; why trouble ye her ? she hath wrought a good work on me.

7 For ye have the poor with you always, and whensoever ye will ye may do them good : but me ye have not always.

8 She hath done what she could : she is

come aforehand to anoint my body to the burying.

9 Verily I say unto you, Wheresoever this gospel shall be preached throughout the whole world, *this* also that she hath done shall be spoken of for a memorial of her.

10 And Ju'das Iscar'iot, one of the twelve, went unto the chief priests, to betray him unto them.

11 And when they heard it, they were glad, and promised to give him money. And he sought how he might conveniently betray him.

THE LESSON RETOLD

Jesus and His disciples came one day to the village of Bethany, where in a certain house a feast was made ready for Jesus. The house belonged to Simon, one of the chief men of the town. He wished to have everything of the best, because one of the guests was Jesus, his truest friend. It was no wonder that Simon loved his great guest, for he once had been ill with a dread disease, and Jesus had made him well.

There were other guests besides Jesus at Simon's feast. Jesus' twelve disciples and Lazarus, whom Jesus had raised from the dead, sat at the table. Mary and Martha, the sisters of Lazarus, were also in the house.

Presently, while Jesus and the friends were at the table, Mary came into the room. She carried a beautiful flask made of alabaster.

It was filled with a costly perfume. The perfume and its flask cost as much money as a workingman could earn in a year. It was one of Mary's dearest treasures.

Mary broke the alabaster flask, and poured the perfume over Jesus' head and over His feet. The sweet odor of her gift soon made the room as fragrant as a garden of flowers.

But the face of Judas, one of the guests, became dark with displeasure. This man, who was one of Jesus' own disciples, began to speak unkindly of Mary's gift. Then one after another of the guests began to frown upon her.

Judas said: "Why was this waste of the ointment made? It might have been sold for much and the money given to the poor." But Jesus said: "Let Mary alone. Why

*The Scripture Memory Passages of the Supplemental Leaflets are recommended as a substitute for those here given Sabbath by Sabbath. Their recitation leads to the obtaining of a beautiful Certificate or Diploma.