

Pour the Precious Perfume over the Head of Jesus Christ

Beginning Remarks

Scripture Reading: <Mat. 26:1-13, Mark 14:1-9, (John 12:1-8)>

1. The Holy Extravagance = Pouring precious perfume over the head of Jesus Christ

(i) In fact the disciples are right. However, this shows their ignorance about Jesus.

- But when the disciples saw it they were angry, saying, "To what purpose is this waste? For we might have got much money for this and given it to the poor."

(ii) Maria did this, not out of excessive human enthusiasm, but out of natural reaction by someone who truly knows Jesus.

- Now when Jesus was in Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, (Jesus has already pardoned his sin and has healed him.)

- John 12:1-8→ before Maria did this, she had already witnessed the resurrection of his brother Lazarus [John 11:1-46]

(3) Lord praised Maria, not because she has offered something precious, but because she knows Jesus truly.

- *"Why are you troubling the woman?" / "she has done a kind act to me" / "For in putting this perfume on my body, she did it to make me ready for my last resting-place."*

2. For in putting this perfume on my body, she did it to make me ready for my last resting-place

(1) The Secret which has been kept from all times and generations – the blood of sacrifice < Colossians 1:26>

<Genesis 3:15, 21, Exodus 12:21-28, Leviticus 17:11>

(2) The Lamb of God - *judged, cursed and put to death as a substitute of His holy people (His body) who belong to Him.*

< Genesis 22:13, Isaiah 52:3-6, Galatians 3:3, 1 Peter 3:18>

- To let have new life < 2 Corinthians 5:17>
- Manifestation of God 's love < Romans 5:8>
- Permanently resolved sin and problems of sin < Romans 8:1-2>
- Healing < Isaiah 52:5, Mathew 9:6>
- No more poverty <2 Corinthians 8:9, Ephesus 1:18-19>
- No more failure < Philippians 4:13>
- The secret of "death and resurrection" on everything
< Galatians 2:20, Philippians 3:10>

(3) How much you know Jesus, how much you are anointed with His love, and how much you obey Him.

3. "Wherever this good news goes out in all the world, what this woman has done will be talked of in memory of her."

(1) The changes that took place in the apostles after Jesus' resurrection.

- For each one of the beloved followers, the time table and process of getting to know Jesus are different. However, after they have truly known Jesus, their life and capacity of serving will be changed.

(2) The message of gospel itself and the power that comes out it will not allow a "lukewarm Christian".

- The 11 apostles enjoyed the power of resurrection everyday. Wherever they went, they testified Jesus our Lord, gather together Lord's children and establish churches, until they gave their lives up as an offering to God for a perfume of a sweet smell.

↔ Judas's suicide ending

(3) Reflection: my relationship with Jesus Christ

① Do I have the right knowledge of Jesus Christ?

- If you has not made it the purpose of your life to truly know Christ Jesus, that means you do not know Him.

② Have I been anointed with Christ's love everyday?

- If you have not seen the progress, you may either have not connected to our Lord the true vine, or have been in a state of disconnection from our Lord.

③ Do you love to have intimacy with Jesus Christ and have communion with Him?

- If you are still trying to love our Lord, you do not love Him, for no one tries to love whom he loves.

④ Have I been pouring my perfume over the head of Jesus?
Do I see the lives and work He entrusts to me everyday?

- How much you see the need to be dependent on God on everything, how much you can observe the pains and sufferings that people have, and how much you can give them the answers.
- This kind of works are exactly the ones that are anointed: they naturally devote themselves to the work of life saving and enjoy in all situations the power from above and see God's help and the fulfillment of His will.

Conclusion

This Week's Prayer Topics

- 1. How much you know Jesus, how much you are anointed with His love, and how much you obey Him:** Please meditate what consequences has it brought to your life in an eternal way, the fact that Jesus has died for you? And how does it relate to my everyday life?
- 2. The message of gospel itself and the power that comes out it will not allow a "lukewarm Christian" :** Make sure that you have the assurance that you are not a "lukewarm Christian" and neither you are one of those meant for destruction – although I do not know Jesus well enough, I am in the process of getting to know Him better. In the days of knowing Him better and better, what have been your breakthroughs?
- 3. Have I been pouring my perfume over the head of Jesus (Jesus is with those who want to be with Him)?** Have you seen though that everyone is suffering? Do you know who are the ones that Lord wants you to help with? Do you know what the Lord wants you to say to help them?