

John 12 - What is Jesus Worth?

How Valuable is Jesus?

Joh 12:1-50 ESV Six days before the Passover, Jesus therefore came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. 2 So they gave a dinner for him there. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those reclining with him at table. 3 **Mary therefore took a pound of expensive ointment made from pure nard, and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair.** The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. 4 But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (he who was about to betray him), said, 5 **"Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?"** 6 He said this, not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief, and having charge of the moneybag he used to help himself to what was put into it. 7 Jesus said, **"Leave her alone, so that she may keep it for the day of my burial. 8 For the poor you always have with you, but you do not always have me."**

In reality you cannot measure His worth - The question is what is He worth to YOU?

- This ointment, was worth 1 year's wages. US CENSUS 2017 median household **\$61,372**
- How did this come into Mary's heart? -- **SHE SAT AT THE FEET OF JESUS??**
- To Judas Iscariot 300 denarii was too much -- He was only worth 30 pieces of silver to Judas
- Judas didn't care for the poor...and in reality the poor will always be here...sometimes we massage our conscience by giving a little to the poor, when **Jesus wants us to be sold out**

There was another (separate but similar anointing)

- **At a separate anointing** -- Mat 26:6-13 ESV ...12 In pouring this ointment on my body, she has done it to prepare me for burial. 13 Truly, I say to you, wherever this gospel is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will also be told in memory of her.
- I hope he means that this is the kind of person it will take to get the job done - **SOLD OUT**

The kingdom of heaven is like TREASURE - have you grasped this?

- Mat 13:44-46 ESV "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. 45 "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, 46 who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.
- **When you have found this treasure - if you recognize it for what it is - YOU SELL OUT!**

The Mission of Jesus Creates a Great Divide

Radical active rejection of truth - vs belief and following

- 9 When the large crowd of the Jews learned that Jesus was there, they came, not only on account of him but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. 10 So the chief priests **made plans to put Lazarus to death** as well, 11 because on account of him many of the **Jews were going away and believing in Jesus.**

- “Open Doors” estimates 11 people are killed every for believing in Jesus¹

There are those who continued to bear witness

- 17 **The crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to bear witness.** 18 The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign. 19 So the Pharisees said to one another, "You see that you are gaining nothing. Look, the world has gone after him."

There are those who will not be convinced

- 37 Though he had done so many signs before them, they still did not believe in him,

There are those that love the glory that comes from man rather than the glory that comes from God

- 42 Nevertheless, many even of the authorities believed in him, but for fear of the Pharisees they did not confess it, so that they would not be put out of the synagogue; 43 for they loved the glory that comes from man more than the glory that comes from God.
- Mary gave her glory to Jesus (**see Jn 12:3**)---- 1Co 11:15 ESV but if a woman has long hair, it is her glory? For her hair is given to her for a covering.

What His Death Accomplished

The fulfillment of prophecies - proving He is Messiah, but giving reason for belief

- 12 The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. 13 So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, **"Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!"** 14 And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written, **15 "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!"** 16 His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that **these things had been written about him and had been done to him.**
 - There are over 300 prophecies in the Bible of Jesus' first coming, all having come true. Someone computed the odds of just 8 of them coming true-----fill the entire State of Texas with 100 trillion silver dollars. That would make the entire state about two feet deep in coins. Then we mark only one coin. Blindfold and go anywhere in the state and pick up 1 coin and it would be the marked coin.

The multiplication of the ministry of Jesus

- [some Greeks came to Jesus and said,] **"Sir, we wish to see Jesus."** 22 Philip went and told Andrew; Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. 23 And Jesus answered them, **"The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. 24 Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. 25 Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal**

¹ <https://www.opendoorsusa.org/christian-persecution/stories/11-christians-killed-every-day-for-their-decision-to-follow-jesus/>

life. **26 If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also.** If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.

- **Jesus gave a strange answer - about remaining alone, or bearing much fruit**
 - Jesus is the grain that fell to the earth and died
 - Those who are his disciples are the MUCH FRUIT
 - People can now “see Jesus” as His life grows in his church
 - **Serve Him, Follow Him, WE Will end up where He is**

To Glorify the Name of the Father

- **27 "Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? But for this purpose I have come to this hour. 28 Father, glorify your name."** Then a voice came from heaven: **"I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again."**[30 Jesus answered, **"This voice has come for your sake, not mine.**]

To cast out the ruler of this world, and to draw all people to himself

- **31 Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out. 32 And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself."** 33 He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die.

Do we Value JESUS? - It is more than just giving money --

It is Crossing the line to Light

- 44 And Jesus cried out and said, **"Whoever believes in me, believes not in me but in him who sent me. 45 And whoever sees me sees him who sent me. 46 I have come into the world as light, so that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness.**

Crossing the Line to Obedience

- 47 **If anyone hears my words and does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world. 48 The one who rejects me and does not receive my words has a judge; the word that I have spoken will judge him on the last day. 49 For I have not spoken on my own authority, but the Father who sent me has himself given me a commandment--what to say and what to speak. 50 And I know that his commandment is eternal life.** What I say, therefore, I say as the Father has told me."