

# The Gospel of John

## The Passion of Christ John 12-21



John 12:1-11

8/18/19 AM

### GUESS WHO'S COMING TO DINNER?

#### Introduction:

	Matthew 26:6-7 Mark 14:1-3	Luke 7:36-50	John 12:1-3
Time	2 days before Passover	not given	6 days before Passover
Location	Bethany (home of Simon the Leper)	Galilee (home of Simon the Pharisee)	Bethany (home of Mary, Martha, and Lazarus?)
Woman	"a woman"	sinful woman	Mary
Container	alabaster	alabaster	not specified
Object	Jesus' head	Jesus' feet	Jesus' feet
Contents	pure nard	perfume/tears	pure nard
Wiping Agent	not specified	hair	hair
Reaction	disciples were indignant	Pharisee critical of Jesus	Judas objected
Jesus' Words	for His burial	for her sins	for His burial

#### I. THE SETTING (12:1-2)

##### A. The Occasion

"Jesus, therefore..."

"six days before the Passover"

##### B. The Location

"Jesus...came to Bethany where Lazarus was"

##### C. The Celebration

"where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead"

"so they made Him a supper there"

"Martha was serving"

"Lazarus was one of those reclining at the table with Him"

#### II. THE SUPPER (12:3-8)

##### A. Mary is Determined to Honor Jesus (vs. 3)

"Mary then took a pound of very costly perfume of 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"

##### B. Mary is Denounced by Judas (vs. 4-6)

"But Judas Iscariot, one of His disciples, who was intending to betray Him, said..."

"Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and given to poor people?"

“Now he said this, not because he was concerned about the poor...”

“...but because he was a thief, and as he had the money box, he used to pilfer what was put into it.”

C. Mary is Defended by Jesus (vs. 7-8)

“Let her alone, so that she may keep it for the day of My burial.”

“For you always have the poor with you, but you do not always have Me.”

**III. THE SEQUEL (12:9-11)**

A. The Response of the People (vs. 9)

“the large crowd of the Jews then learned that He was there”

“they came, not for Jesus’ sake only, but that they might also see Lazarus, whom He raised from the dead”

B. The Response of the Priests (vs. 10-11)

“the chief priests planned to put Lazarus to death also”

“because on account of him many of the Jews were going away and were believing in Jesus”

**Conclusion:**

- 1) A life spent in selfless devotion to Jesus is not wasted, but a life spent on self is totally wasted.
- 2) Loving Jesus Christ will cost you financially and socially and will bring you under criticism from others.
- 3) Loving Jesus Christ will result in purposeful action.
- 4) Loving Jesus Christ comes from knowing Him personally.

**Food for Thought:**

- 1) What does this story contribute to the Gospel narrative of the passion of Christ? Why do you think John included it here?
- 2) What does treasuring Jesus more than your “stuff” look like for you?
- 3) Apart from his motivation for theft, doesn’t Judas’ question sound quite reasonable? What’s the problem?
- 4) Why is the right motive for serving Christ so important? How can you keep a proper balance?