

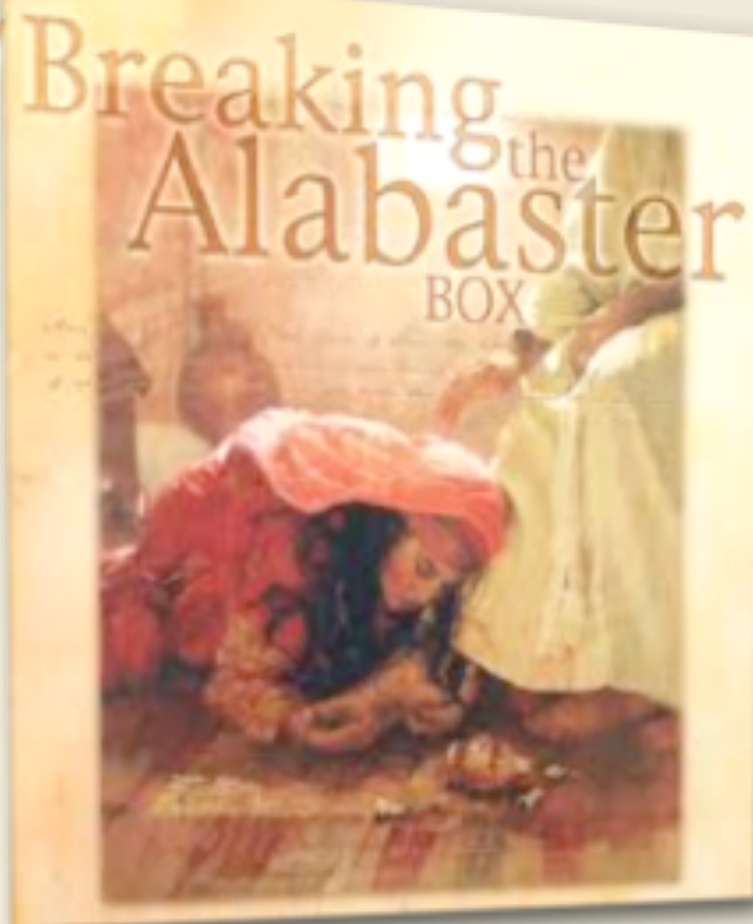
Mark 14:1-11

The Woman  
Who Did  
What She  
Could





# The Woman Who Did What She Could

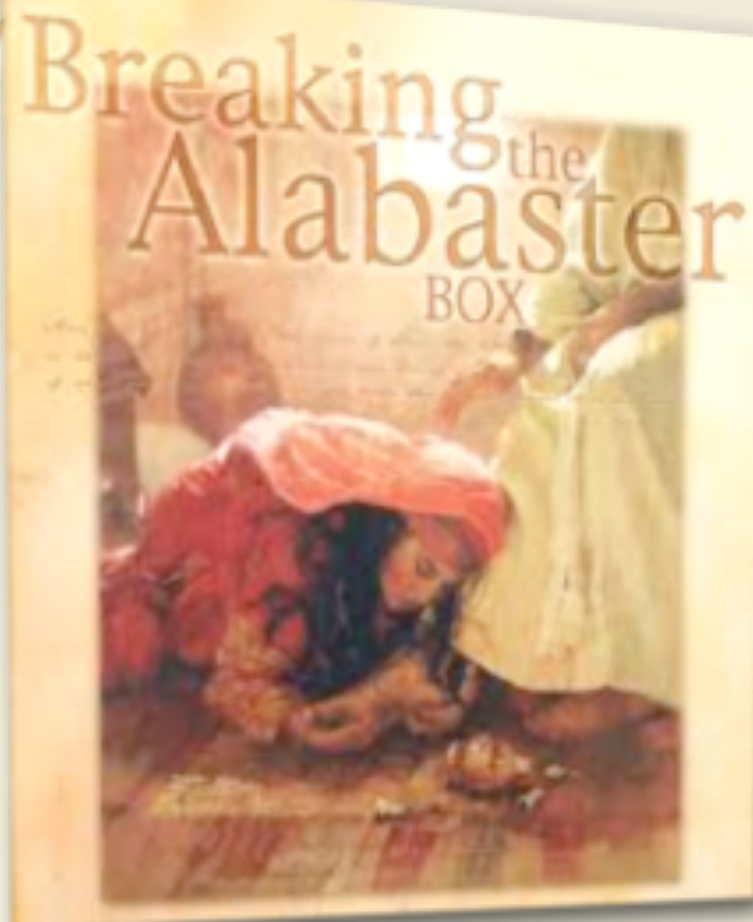


Mark 14:1-9 (NKJV)

<sup>1</sup> After two days it was the Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread. And the chief priests and the scribes sought how they might take Him by trickery and put Him to death. <sup>2</sup> But they said, "Not during the feast, lest there be an uproar of the people."



# The Woman Who Did What She Could

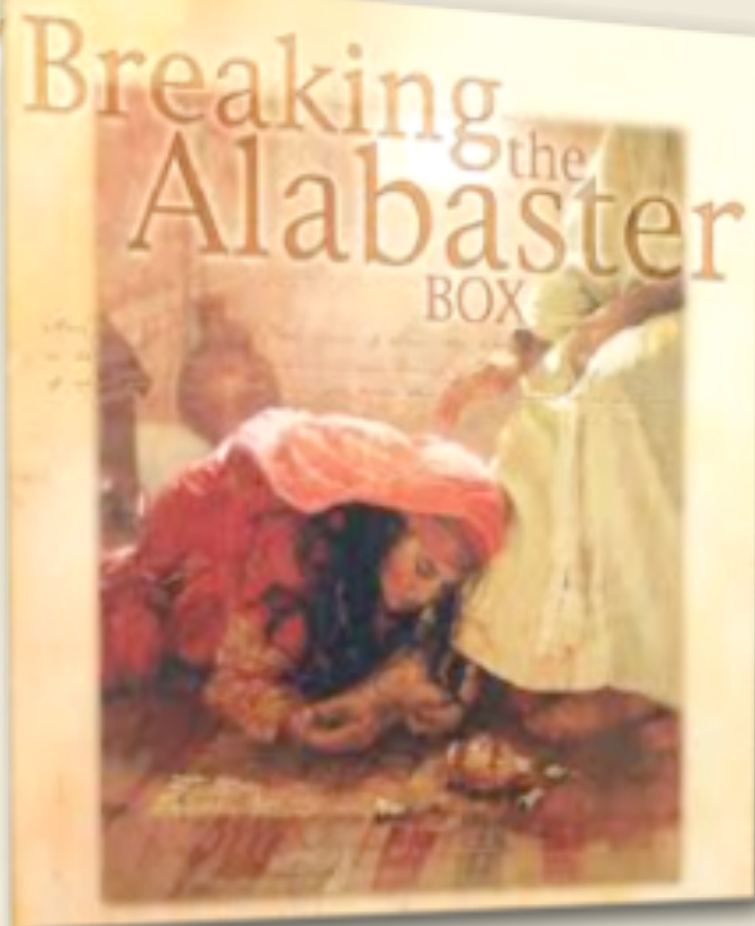


Mark 14:1-9 (NKJV)

<sup>3</sup> And being in Bethany at the house of Simon the leper, as He sat at the table, a woman came having an alabaster flask of very costly oil of spikenard. Then she broke the flask and poured it on His head. <sup>4</sup> But there were some who were indignant among themselves, and said, "Why was this fragrant oil wasted?"



# The Woman Who Did What She Could

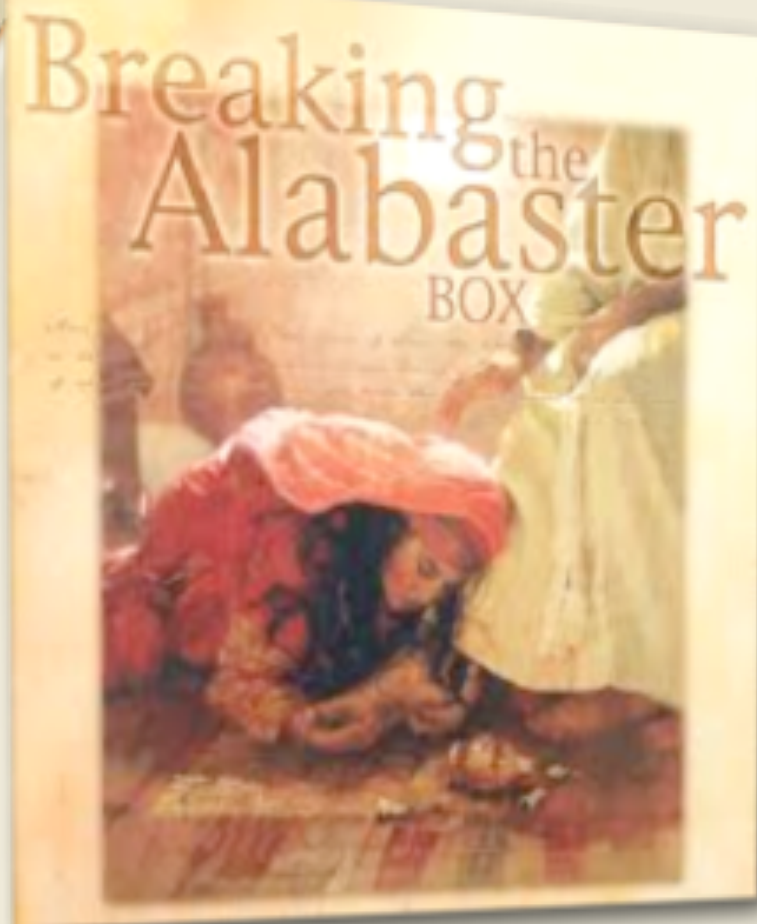


Mark 14:1-9 (NKJV)

<sup>5</sup> For it might have been sold for more than three hundred denarii and given to the poor." And they criticized her sharply. <sup>6</sup> But Jesus said, "Let her alone. Why do you trouble her? She has done a good work for Me.



# The Woman Who Did What She Could

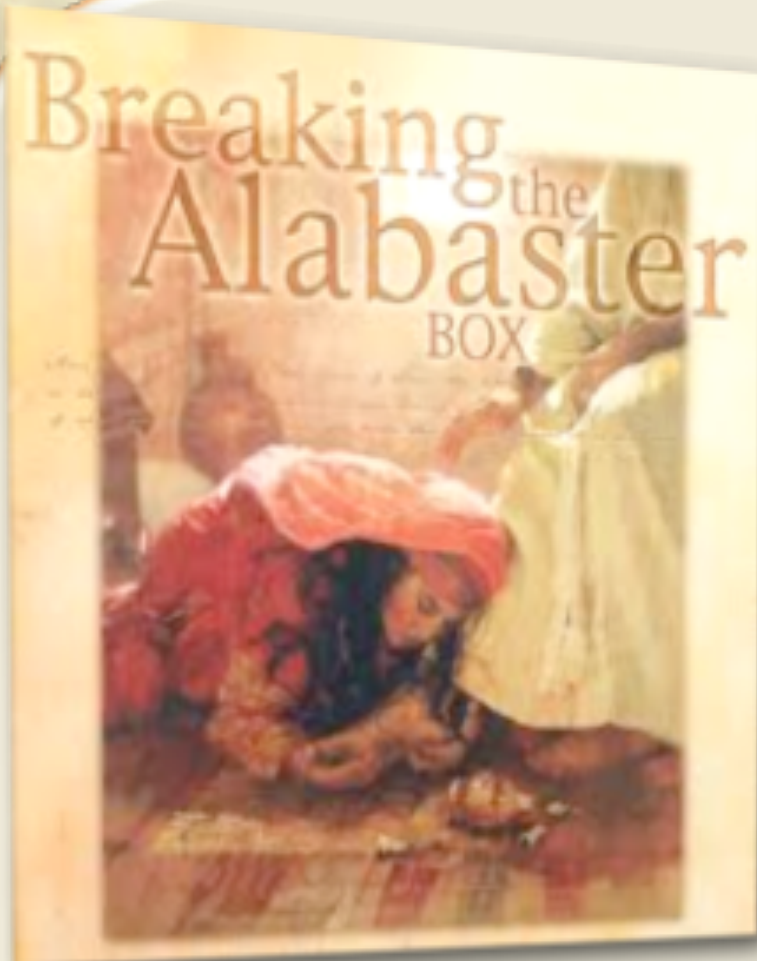


Mark 14:1-9 (NKJV)

<sup>7</sup> For you have the poor with you always, and whenever you wish you may do them good; but Me you do not have always. <sup>8</sup> She has done what she could. She has come beforehand to anoint My body for burial.



# The Woman Who Did What She Could



Mark 14:1-9 (NKJV)

<sup>9</sup> Assuredly, I say to you,  
wherever this gospel is  
preached in the whole world,  
what this woman has done will  
also be told as a memorial to  
her."



# The Woman Who Did What She Could

## Two Days Before The Passover & Feast of Unleavened Bread - v. 1,2





# The Woman Who Did What She Could

## Two Days Before The Passover & Feast of Unleavened Bread - v. 1,2

- ✦ The Jews were plotting a way to kill Jesus - cf Mat 26:1-5; Luke 22:1,2





# The Woman Who Did What She Could

## Two Days Before The Passover & Feast of Unleavened Bread - v. 1,2



- ✦ The Jews were plotting a way to kill Jesus - cf Mat 26:1-5; Luke 22:1,2
- ✦ Jesus is staying in Bethany with Mary, Martha & Lazarus - during which time a supper is made in His honor in the house of Simon the leper - John 12:1,2



# The Woman Who Did What She Could

## She Did What She Could With What She Had - v. 3

“Having an  
alabaster flask of  
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- ❖ The woman was Mary, the sister of Lazarus - John 11:2; 12:2,3





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- ❖ Alabaster flask - a small stone flask, containing about a pint sealed with wax





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- ❖ Oil of Spikenard - of costly perfume made of aromatic oil from a rare plant root native to northern India.



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- ❖ Mary broke the seal of the stone flask and poured the perfume over Jesus' head. *(She also poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped them with her hair (cf. John 12:3)).*





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- ❖ Mary broke the seal of the stone flask and poured the perfume over Jesus' head. (*She also poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped them with her hair* (cf. John 12:3).
- ❖ Anointing a guest's head was not uncommon at festive Jewish meals (cf. Ps. 23:5; Luke 7:46)





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- ❖ Mary broke the seal of the stone flask and poured the perfume over Jesus' head. (*She also poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped them with her hair* (cf. John 12:3).
- ❖ Anointing a guest's head was not uncommon at festive Jewish meals (cf. Ps. 23:5; Luke 7:46)
- ❖ Mary's lavish gift expressed her love and thanks to Jesus as well as her faith - (cf. Mat 26:1,2,12; e.g., 16:21; 17:22; 20:18),



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- ❖ The magnitude of Mary's gratitude, love and faith was manifested by the cost of her gift - [*not the price of the gift itself!*] - (cf. Mk 12:41-44; 2 Cor. 8:3)





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- ❖ What value is my gift if it costs me nothing? - (2 Sam 24:24; 1 Chron. 21:24; Malachi 1:6-14)





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- ❖ What value is my gift if it costs me nothing? - (2 Sam 24:24; 1 Chron. 21:24; Malachi 1:6-14)
- ❖ She gave all - [*there was no putting it back in the bottle*] - (Mark 12:29-31; Mat 6:19-25; James 4:8)



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- ❖ Some think of what they would do - IF they had the money, the time, the talent . . . etc.
- ❖ Do what we can with what we have!





# The Woman Who Did What She Could

## **She Did What She Could Regardless Of Critics - v. 4-6**

“But there were some who were indignant among themselves, and said, “Why was this fragrant oil wasted?” vs. 4





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- ❖ Her good deed made others who witnessed her act “indignant” [sore, or much displeased] - (4)
- ❖ Their opinion was that what she had done was a “waste” and therefore wrong - she needed a rebuke - (4)



# The Woman Who Did What She Could

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For it might have been sold for  
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- ❖ They had a better and more noble idea for how Mary should have used what she had - (vs. 5; Mat 26:8,9; John 12:4,5)





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- ❖ Judas was the originator of the criticism and we are told the real motive behind the idea - (John 12:6)
- ❖ Judas' criticism was adopted by others - for it says "they criticized her sharply" - (vs. 5; cf. Mat 26:8,9)



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“But Jesus said, “Let her alone.  
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- ❖ Mary sought no fame other than to honor Jesus - and to gain His favor - She did so by exhibiting more faith in His words than the other disciples and showing Him her love and appreciation.
- ❖ Yet Jesus said that the story would be told throughout the world as a memorial to her (vs. 9; Matthew 26:13).



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❖ Understand - it is NOT wrong to:





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  - ✦ *To acknowledge things that are not being done that should be - Acts 6:1*
  - ✦ *To rebuke one in error - Gal 2:14*
- ❖ Yet, many wrongfully criticize good hard working Christians, while they themselves do little or nothing!



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- ❖ Jesus received much criticism -  
(Luke 5:30; 15:2; 19:7; John 6:41)





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- ❖ Jesus received much criticism - (Luke 5:30; 15:2; 19:7; John 6:41)
- ❖ There will always be critics. [*too many specialize in finding fault*] - (Num. 13:26ff; 16:1-11; Jude 1:16)



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- ❖ Jesus received much criticism - (Luke 5:30; 15:2; 19:7; John 6:41)
- ❖ There will always be critics. [*too many specialize in finding fault*] - (Num. 13:26ff; 16:1-11; Jude 1:16)
- ❖ We cannot allow criticism to paralyze us with fear - it takes courage to do what we know is right! - (Mat 10:25-31)



# The Woman Who Did What She Could

## She Did What She Could While She Could Do it - v. 7, 8

Me you do not have always. She  
has done what she could. She  
has come beforehand to anoint  
My body for burial. - vs. 7,8





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- ❖ The contrast in verse 7 is not between Jesus and the poor but between the words **always** and **not always**.





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- ❖ The contrast in verse 7 is not between Jesus and the poor but between the words **always** and **not always**.
- ❖ He would not be with them much longer - (Mat 17:22; 20:18,19; 26:1,11; John 12:8)



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- ❖ He would not be with them much longer - (Mat 17:22; 20:18,19; 26:1,11; John 12:8)
- ❖ Opportunities to help the poor will always be present.



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(NKJV) "Let her alone; she has kept this for the day of My burial."



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(NKJV) "Let her alone; she has kept this for the day of My burial.

(NASB) "Let her alone, so that she may keep it for the day of My burial.



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- ❖ We too must do what we can - while we can - (Luke 10:30-37; James 4:13-17)





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- ❖ We too must do what we can - while we can - (Luke 10:30-37; James 4:13-17)
- ❖ Too many procrastinate in doing what they know they should - looking for a convenient season - (*Felix* - Acts 24:25)



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- ❖ We too must do what we can - while we can - (Luke 10:30-37; James 4:13-17)
- ❖ Too many procrastinate in doing what they know they should - looking for a convenient season - (*Felix* - Acts 24:25)
- ❖ Today is the day of salvation - (2 Cor. 6:2; Heb 3:7,13; 4:7)



# The Woman Who Did What She Could

**Let Us Show Our Faith, Honor & Love  
To Jesus By Doing What We Can**





# The Woman Who Did What She Could

**Let Us Show Our Faith, Honor & Love  
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◆ Are We Doing What We  
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# The Woman Who Did What She Could

## Let Us Show Our Faith, Honor & Love To Jesus By Doing What We Can



- ◆ Are We Doing What We Can With What We Have?
- ◆ Are We Doing What We Can Regardless Of Critics?



# The Woman Who Did What She Could

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# The Woman Who Did What She Could

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# The Woman Who Did What She Could

## Let Us Show Our Faith, Honor & Love To Jesus By Doing What We Can



- ❖ Because we are grateful for all that He has done for us -



# The Woman Who Did What She Could

## Let Us Show Our Faith, Honor & Love To Jesus By Doing What We Can



- ❖ Because we are grateful for all that He has done for us -
- ❖ Because He is worthy of all the honor, devotion and praise we can offer Him -



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- ❖ Because He is worthy of our complete & loyal obedience -
- ❖ He is worthy of our BEST & our ALL!!!



# The Woman Who Did What She Could

**True worship and service is  
complete surrender.**



Poured out for my Savior  
O, let me be  
A sweet aroma, Rising to Thee.  
No price too great, No service  
too small  
Poured out for You, Precious  
Savior,  
I pour out my all.



Sonny Sharp

Ashton

479

375

7 (s)

245 (1,2,3,4 chorus last)

301

498 (1,3)



# The Woman Who Did What She Could

## **Charts by Don McClain**

Prepared March 7-10, 2012

Preached March 11, 2012

West 65<sup>th</sup> Street church of Christ

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<http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?>

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## **John 12:1-11 (NKJV)**

<sup>1</sup> Then, six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus was who had been dead, whom He had raised from the dead. <sup>2</sup> There they made Him a supper; and Martha served, but Lazarus was one of those who sat at the table with Him. <sup>3</sup> Then Mary took a pound of very costly oil of spikenard, anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped His feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the oil.



## **John 12:1-11 (NKJV)**

<sup>4</sup> Then one of His disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, who would betray Him, said, <sup>5</sup> "Why was this fragrant oil not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" <sup>6</sup> This he said, not that he cared for the poor, but because he was a thief, and had the money box; and he used to take what was put in it. <sup>7</sup> But Jesus said, "**Let her alone; she has kept this for the day of My burial.**"



## **John 12:1-11 (NKJV)**

<sup>8</sup> For the poor you have with you always, but Me you do not have always." <sup>9</sup> Now a great many of the Jews knew that He was there; and they came, not for Jesus' sake only, but that they might also see Lazarus, whom He had raised from the dead. <sup>10</sup> But the chief priests plotted to put Lazarus to death also, <sup>11</sup> because on account of him many of the Jews went away and believed in Jesus.