

LOVE AND HATE

--MARK 14:1-9--

INTRODUCTION:

Mark spends a good amount of time on Passion Week, which began on a Monday with the Triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Jesus left the Temple on Wednesday for the last time. The rest of that day was spent on the Mount of Olives with Jesus teaching His disciples. Mark 14 begins on that same Wednesday of Passion Week, Passover and the feast of Unleavened Bread were two days away. Mark records two events that took place to contrast for us the hatred of the religious leaders and the love and devotion of those who truly loved the Lord Jesus and knew that He was the Messiah.

I. DESPERATE HATE (Mark 14:1-2)

- a. Mark begins chapter 14 by informing us that the Passover and Unleavened Bread were _____ days away, which indicates for us that it was still Wednesday.
- b. Being two days away from the Passover, Jesus knew in keeping with the Father's perfect _____ that the time had come for Him to die. (Matthew 26:2; Mark 10:45)
- c. On the divine level, God the Father was sovereignly working to accomplish His _____ purposes through the death of His Son.
- d. While Jesus was speaking to His disciples about His glorious _____ on the slopes of the Mount of Olives, the chief priests and scribes were meeting together.

II. DEVOTED LOVE (Mark 14:3-6)

- a. In verse three Mark switches from Jerusalem to an event in _____. (John 12:1-8)
- b. Mark records that while Jesus was in Bethany, He accepted an invitation to _____ in the home of a man known as "Simon the leper."
- c. As they were reclining at the table, they _____ a remarkable event that they would never forget. (John 12:3)

- d. Due to the intensity of her devotional focus upon the Lord Jesus, she must have given no _____ to what others would think of her action.
- e. The disciples thought they knew the _____ of Jesus, but they were badly mistaken.

III. DEVOTION COMMENDED (Mark 14:7-9)

- a. Jesus began by affirming that what Mary had done was _____.
- b. First, because Jesus was aware of Mary's loving _____. (1st Corinthians 13)
- c. The second reason it was beautiful is that it came from a spontaneous _____ to the promptings of the Holy Spirit.
- d. The third reason Mary's act was so beautiful was that it was _____ dominated by practicality.
- e. Jesus has a lot of strange things in His _____: widows' pennies, cups of water, broken alabaster vials.
- f. Next, in verse 7 Jesus defended Mary's action because it placed Jesus before _____ else. (Matthew 10:42; James 1:27)
- g. Jesus has defended Mary's anointing of Him as beautiful because it put Christ first, and it was _____.
- h. Complete _____ is the only adequate expression for a life that has been redeemed by God. (Romans 12:1)
- i. There is something else in this phrase: she did what she could being the _____ she was, according to her personality, her disposition.
- j. Lastly, Jesus praised the insightfulness of Mary's _____.
- k. Jewish women considered their hair their _____.
- l. Jesus said in closing, "*Truly I say to you, wherever the gospel is preached in the whole world, what this woman has done will also be spoken of in _____ of her.*" (Mark 14:9, NASB95)

CONCLUSION:

Mary's story is part of the Gospel, part of the good news, because she was a demonstration of what happens in a life touched by the

by the Savior of love and then trusting in that Savior. What does Mary's magnificent example tell us Jesus wants from us? He wants something beautiful. Beautiful because of its motivation, a couple of tiny copper coins, a broken empty vial. Beautiful because it comes spontaneously from our hearts at the prompting of the Holy Spirit and is done solely for our Savior's glory. He wants us to put Him before everything else, even the poor. He wants us to do what we can. He wants every last drop. Everything. He wants us to have the courage to follow our hearts as we do what we can. He wants our devotion to be informed by a deep understanding of who He is. Such devotion will be memorialized by Him. We must desire nothing else!