

**JESUS ANOINTED AT BETHANY
- WASTEFUL OR WONDERFUL?**

MARK 14:1-11

2 CORINTHIANS 9: 6-8, 12-15

ANOINTING AT BETHANY – WASTEFUL OR WONDERFUL?

Who? - The Central Character

- **“A Woman”**
- **Mary, sister of Martha and Lazarus?**

Her Action - A Challenge about:

- **OUR COMMITMENT**
- **OUR ATTITUDES**
- **OUR RESPONSE**

ANOINTING AT BETHANY – WASTEFUL OR WONDERFUL?

Where?

- A dinner party at the house of Simon the (cured!) Leper
- Entertaining Jesus out of thankfulness

❖ **GRATITUDE AND HOW IT SHOWS ITSELF – THE HEART OF THE STORY**

ANOINTING AT BETHANY – WASTEFUL OR WONDERFUL?

The Perfume

- **Not one or two drops but a whole bottle!**
- **Pervasive, Overwhelming Aroma**

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- ❖ **Exceptional Devotion**
- ❖ **Exceptional Generosity**
- ❖ **Hugely Sacrificial**

ANOINTING AT BETHANY – WASTEFUL OR WONDERFUL?

The Guests' Reaction - “Why this Waste?”

- **Embarrassment?**
- **[False] Social Concern?**
- **A sense of Shame?**

“Leave her alone. Why are you bothering her?”

ANOINTING AT BETHANY – PROPHETIC SIGNIFICANCE

The Woman's Action:

- **Affirms Jesus as King/Messiah**
 - **Proclaims his Death and resurrection**
 - **Expresses her Commitment to him as Lord**
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- ❖ **“A Beautiful Thing”**
 - ❖ **A Picture of the Eternal and Universal Gospel**

ANOINTING AT BETHANY – CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

“The responsible and mindful management of ALL that God has entrusted to us.” 2 Cor. 9:7

- **“No-one ever became poor by giving.” Anne Frank**
- **The Grace of Giving ---- God is no one’s Debtor**

- **DEVOTION**
- **GRATITUDE**
- **GENEROSITY**