

## Mark 14:3-9 **Mary of Bethany Anointed Jesus**

<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? <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. <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. <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." NKJV

### Facts Revealed:

- ✚ Jesus was anointed by Mary the sister of Martha, Lazarus, and Judas Iscariot, daughter of Simon the leper who was a Pharisee. [Matthew 26:6-13, Mark 14:3-9, Luke 7:36-50, John 12:1-8]
- ✚ One of the disciples, her brother Judas Iscariot criticized the waste. [Matthew 26:8-9, Mark 14:4-5, John 12:4-6]
  - ✧ Her father Simon said, "This man, if He were a prophet, would know who and what manner of woman this is who is touching Him, for she is a sinner." [Luke 7:39]
  - ✧ This gives us a clue that Mary might have been a harlot.
- ✚ Jesus addressed her father Simon who was a Pharisee, saying:
  - ✧ "Simon, I have something to say to you." And he said, "Teacher, say it." <sup>41</sup> There was a certain creditor who had two debtors. One owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. <sup>42</sup> And when they had nothing with which to repay, he freely forgave them both. Tell Me, therefore, which of them will love him more?" <sup>43</sup> Simon answered and said, "I suppose the one whom he forgave more." And He said to him, "You have rightly judged." <sup>44</sup> Then He turned to the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave Me no water for My feet, but she has washed My feet with her tears and wiped them with the hair of her head. <sup>45</sup> You gave Me no kiss, but this woman has not ceased to kiss My feet since the time I came in. <sup>46</sup> You did not anoint My head with oil, but this woman has anointed My feet with fragrant oil. <sup>47</sup> Therefore I say to you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven, for she loved much. But to whom little is forgiven, the same loves little." [Luke 7:40-47] NKJV
- ✚ Jesus forgave Mary of her sins. [Luke 7:48]
  - ✧ Jesus had taught that repentant **harlots** might enter the Kingdom of Heaven, while Chief Priests, Elders, Scribes, and Pharisees might not be allowed in. [Matthew 5:20, 8:11-12, 21:31-32, 23:13]
- ✚ Jesus credited it as anointing for His burial. [Matthew 26:10-12, Mark 14:6-8, John 12:7]
- ✚ Jesus made this a memorial for Mary, wherever this Gospel is preached. [Matthew 26:13, Mark 14:9]