

INTRODUCTION

Four people stand out in the story:

- Lazarus - the man whom Jesus recently raised from the dead.
- Mary - Lazarus' sister; she anoints Jesus with a costly pound of ointment.
- Judas - the one who later betrays Jesus.
- Jesus - the Master, who would soon die on the cross.

A discussion arose over Mary's action, and Jesus steps in to rebuke Judas and commend Mary.

THE WAY 3 PEOPLE VIEWED THE ACTION

1. JUDAS

He offered another use for the ointment; however, (v6) "not that he cared for the poor."

Lesson: honest generosity on our part may look like foolishness to others.

2. MARY

This costly ointment had been saved, was not in use, and perhaps she is thinking that this is just such an occasion for which it was saved, and it must be done now.

Lesson: in our daily living for Jesus, there may come a time when we will want to make an unexpected sacrifice (one we cannot make often or repeatedly).

3. JESUS

The gospel of Mark has Jesus saying, (Mark 14:6) "she has wrought a good work on me" (v8) "She has done what she could: she is come aforehand to anoint my body to the burying"

Lesson: (2 Cor. 8:12) "For if there be first a willing mind, it is accepted according to that a man has, and not according to that he has not."

WHERE SHALL I BREAK OPEN THE "BOX"?

(it's your decision)

- Home
- Within the congregation
- Community

WHEN SHALL I BREAK OPEN THE "BOX"?

(you decide)

CLOSE: We cannot "splurge" everyday; however, keep your eyes open for that one time.