

McCoy Memorial Baptist Church

Date: May 21, 2023

Title: "Faith's Devotion"

Text: John 12:1-11

INTRODUCTION:

1. What should devotion to Jesus Christ look like in the lives of God's blood bought (redeemed) people?
2. Mary, Martha, & Lazarus —two sisters and a brother— are "representative people" who exemplify the quality of devotion that ought to characterize God's redeemed people.

SETTING (vss. 1, 2)

1. Time:
2. Place:
3. Occasion:

MARTHA REPRESENTS OUR _____ FOR THE LORD

Look at verse 2. It says very simply, "Martha served". See Lk. 10:38-42.

1. We were _____ to _____.
2. We were _____ to serve.
3. We were not saved to _____, _____, _____.
4. Do not allow _____ interests to push _____ interests to a back corner of your life. *Compare Philippians 2:20-21.*

LAZARUS REPRESENTS OUR _____ TO THE LOST

1. Every saved person is a _____ person.

See Ephesians 2:1-6 and Romans 6:2-4, 11-13.

2. A resurrected life is an _____ life!

Listen to what Peter wrote in 1 Peter 3:15. "In your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope you have."

MARY REPRESENTS OUR _____ OF THE LORD *

Mary took a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume, and poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair.

1. Mary had found _____ and _____ in Him.

2. Mary _____ at Jesus' feet and _____ His word.

3. She had seen Jesus' mighty power in raising her brother, Lazarus, from the dead and was _____.

4. See Matthew 26:13 & Mark 14:9. What is Mary saying to us today?

She is saying in effect that there is nothing too valuable to give to Christ. He is worthy of everything we have and are.

A. Give Him your _____.

B. Give Him your _____.

* "The two chief personages in the account are Mary & Judas. The contrast between them is striking. . . . This contrast affords a study in the development of belief and unbelief among Jesus' own followers."

John opened His book by telling us that Jesus "came to that which was His own, but His own did not receive Him" (1:11). In the first 12 chapters, John presented *one witness after another*, & *one proof after another*, to convince Israel (to convince us) that Jesus is indeed the Christ, the Son of God. All this evidence was seen firsthand by the leaders of the nation, and yet they rejected His claims. Having been rejected by "His own" nation (12:37-41), Jesus then pivoted away from His public ministry, to focus on His private ministry with His disciples (chs. 12-17) and His priestly ministry at the cross (chs. 18-20). John summarizes the rest of His Gospel with 13:1. "It was just before the Passover feast. Jesus knew that the time had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he now showed them the full extent of His love."

We see in chapter 12, the Lord Jesus Christ as He relates to 4 different groups of people, & there are lessons that we can learn as we study this section. **1)** Jesus and his friends (12:1-11); **2)** Jesus and the Passover pilgrims (12:12-19); **3)** Jesus and the Gentile visitors (12:20-36); **4)** Jesus and Unbelieving Jews (12:37-50).

Taken together these paragraphs describe the transition in the career of Jesus fr. a public to a private ministry (chs. 13-17) & then his priestly ministry (chs. 18-20). "The hour is come" (12:23) is the central concept of the passage. Hereafter the story of the Gospel moved swiftly to its conclusion.

Another approach is the approach of John Phillips:

Epilogue (1:1-18)

The "Signs of the Son of God" (1:19-12:50)

1. His Deity is **Declared** (1:19-4:54)
Merrill Tenney calls it "The Period of Consideration"
2. His Deity is **Disputed** (5:1-10:42; chs. 5-10)
Merrill Tenney calls it "The Period of Consideration/Controversy"
3. His Deity is **Disowned** (11:1-12:50; chs. 11, 12)
Merrill Tenney calls it "The Period of Crisis"
 - A. Some Examples of His Rejection (11:1-12:36)
 - 1) Rejection in spite of His Feats of Power (11:1-12:11)
Seven "sign miracles" - the last one being the greatest one!

- 2) Rejection in spite of His Fulfillment of Prophecy (12:12-19)
The prophecies being Psalm 118:25-26 and Zechariah 9:9.
- 3) Rejection in spite of His Fervor in Prayer (12:20-36)
*"The hour is come" (vs. 23) is the central concept of the passage.
Hereafter the story of the Gospel moved swiftly to its conclusion.*

B. Some Explanations of His Rejection (12:37-50)

- 1) An Ancient Prophecy (vss. 37-43)
The prophecy of Isaiah: 53:1 and 6:10
 - a) Solid disbelief
 - b) Secret disciples
- 2) An Abiding Principle (vss. 44-50)
 - a) A great fact (44-46)
 - He said something about Deity (44, 45)
 - He said something about Darkness (46)
 - b) A grave future (47-50)
 - Judgment is decreed (47, 48)
 - Judgment is deserved (49, 50)
The source of the Lord's words (49)
The substance of the Lord's words (50)