

**II. MANIFESTATIONS OF CHRIST'S POWER
IN PUBLIC MINISTRY
JOHN 12**

A. EVENTS WHICH TOOK PLACE AT BETHANY (12:1-8)

1. Six days before the _____ Jesus came to the home of Martha, Mary, and Lazarus in Bethany (1).
2. There they prepared supper for Him and Martha served as He sat with Lazarus and some of His disciples (2).
3. Then after supper Mary anointed Jesus' feet with a pound of costly _____ and dried His feet with her hair. The house was filled with the odor of the ointment (3). This was an act of worship by Mary and it said "there's nothing too valuable to give to Jesus." Mary's act brought a fragrance to the whole house. In this we see there's a pleasant aroma which fills the house in which Jesus is worshipped and honored and given His rightful place.
4. In response to Mary's act, Judas questioned this as a wasteful act which could have been used to help the poor (4-6). Judas didn't care anything for the poor. He was a selfish thief and his life centered around money and not his devotion to Christ. His statements were expressions of his selfish character. Note Mark 14:3-5.
5. Jesus then defended Mary and what she had done (7-8). He said she had done this against or in light of His death and burial and He, unlike the poor, would not be with them much longer. Mary was showing her love and affection for the Saviour before His death. There's an old saying that "we need to give people flowers while they're alive not when they're dead." This is what Mary was doing.

We should also note when someone gives his or her best to the Lord it usually results in criticism by those who do not know Him or do not hold Him in high esteem.

**B. EVENTS SURROUNDING JESUS' TRIUMPHANT ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM
(12:9-50).**

1. We notice many people had heard that Jesus was near Jerusalem and so many came to Bethany to see Him but also to see _____ (9).
2. Behind the scenes the chief priests had plotted to kill _____ also because many of the Jews had believed on Jesus as a result of Lazarus being raised (10,11). Herein we see a principle: when people don't believe in the Lord they seek to do away with the evidence which should cause them to believe.
3. The next day Jesus entered _____ in fulfillment of the prophecies concerning Him and while a small number graciously received Him, the Jewish leaders as a

whole rejected Him (12,19). Despite the fact that witnesses of Lazarus raising bore testimony, it had no effect upon the religious leaders (17).

4. At this time certain Greeks or _____ sought an interview with Jesus. Although no interview is recorded the statements which Jesus made following indicate how His death would make a way for all to be saved (20-26). The coming of the Greeks to Jesus at this time when the Jews had rejected Him pictures how the Gentiles would hear the gospel and be saved. Note Acts 13:46.
5. Jesus then made a number of statements in light of His impending death (27-36).
 - a. He was troubled but resigned to give His life for sinners (27).
 - b. When He prayed for the Father to glorify His name, God the Father answered but those hearing explained it away (28-30).
 - c. Jesus then declared that this world is now judged - meaning for rejecting, condemning, and crucifying the Son of God (31). While it might seem like a victory for the world, it would be the victory of the Son of God over sin.
 - d. Jesus said when He would be crucified He would draw all men meaning “all kinds” of men unto Himself from every nation, tribe, and language (32,33).
 - e. At this point the people asked Him regarding what He said in light of what the law had said about Christ. To this Jesus responded with another plea for others to believe on Him and savor the opportunity for salvation. After saying these things Jesus hid himself from the crowd (34-36).
6. John at this point gives his own parenthetical comments regarding the Jew’s disbelief and rejection of the Lord Jesus (37-43).
7. Verses 44-50 are parenthetical and were probably spoken before verse 36. These verses assert the fact that Jesus will one day judge all men on the basis of His Word and how they have responded to it.

QUESTIONS WHICH APPLY TO OUR LIVES

1. What principle regarding worship did Mary illustrate in anointing Jesus?

2. What application can we make for our homes from this incident?

3. What principle regarding relationships with others can we apply to our lives?

4. What lesson can we learn in the Greeks seeking an interview with Jesus?

5. What principle regarding service do we find in verses 24, 25?

6. What is illustrated about unbelievers in verses 28,29?

7. From verses 42,43 can you contrast the belief of some of the Pharisees with genuine belief in the Lord?

8. What important lesson do we see in verses 37-41 and how must we view this prophecy?

9. What conclusion can we rightly draw from verses 27,32?

10. What do verses 9 and 10 demonstrate about unbelievers when they are confronted with the faith?

EXPOSITORY NOTES

- 12:1** Notice the time and setting of the events in this chapter. It was six days before the Jewish Passover Feast and Jesus has come to the house of Martha, Mary and Lazarus (2 miles away) and it is a week before His crucifixion. Verses 12-19 record John's account of Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem.
- 12:5** The "pence" mentioned is the denarii which represented a laborer's wages for a day. Three hundred denarii would be worth nearly a whole year's wages of a laboring man.
- 12:3** Notice this account of Mary anointing Jesus' head seems similar to the account of Mark 14:3-9 where it is stated that she anointed Jesus' feet. But this account must not be confused

with the account given in Luke 7:36-50 where a former harlot anointed Him. Mary was a virtuous woman who had anointed Jesus' feet in Simon's house earlier and now in her own home.

12:13 The word "Hosanna" is a Hebrew word which means "save now". It appears that Jesus' disciples were expressing their belief that He was the promised One who would deliver the Jews from Gentile rule and oppression.

12:37-43 Seem to express John's own parenthetical thoughts concerning how men still rejected Jesus despite all the miraculous things He had done.

12:44-50 Seem to follow the events which ended after 12:36a because it is stated that Jesus departed and hid Himself from the multitude.

Chapter twelve presents a character study in the persons of Martha, Mary, Lazarus, and Judas. While Judas pictures the selfish hypocritical unbeliever, Martha represents the worker and Mary represents the worshipper. Lazarus pictures the one who is a witness of the miraculous power of Christ. As believers we should live a balanced life as a worshipper, a worker and a witness for Christ.