

**Introduction:**

- *Meanwhile, Jesus was in Bethany at the home of Simon, a man who had previously had leprosy. 7 While he was eating, a woman came in with a beautiful alabaster jar of expensive perfume and poured it over his head. 8 The disciples were indignant when they saw this. "What a waste!" they said. 9 "It could have been sold for a high price and the money given to the poor." 10 But Jesus, aware of this, replied, "Why criticize this woman for doing such a good thing to me? 11 You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me. 12 She has poured this perfume on me to prepare my body for burial. 13 I tell you the truth, wherever the Good News is preached throughout the world, this woman's deed will be remembered and discussed."* Matthew 26:6-13 (NLT). Mk 14:3-9; Lk 7:36-50\*; Jn 12:3
- We have been on a journey of discovery in the topic Jesus is Lord.
  - not a brand, not just christian lingo, not just a phrase for new christians.
  - We looked last week at the differences between brokenness, surrender and submission all in reference to Jesus as Lord in our lives.
- Today we will go deeper into the topic of Lordship. To say that Jesus is Lord should cause something to explode in us that is 'scary wonderful.'
- I want to delve into the topic of Jesus Lordship in a very applicable and practical way today.
- Making Jesus the Lord of our lives is about bringing our soul and our body into submission to His Spirit.
- It is about bringing our body and soul into submission to our regenerated spirit in such a way as to release the Spirit of Christ in us to touch others lives. I want to start by giving us the frame work from which we work from and move into how to apply the truth.

**I. The Frame Work****A. The circles of our lives.**

1. There are three circles of our lives: The spirit man, born again, regenerate man, God man. (the core of who we are.) The soul ( our mind our will and our emotions.) And our body. (made up of our 5 senses, the physical man)
2. The spirit man cannot be released until the soulish man is broken. Our soul, (mind will emotions) must be brought into submission to Jesus' Lordship before we are useful to other people and to the Kingdom.
3. The soul must be mastered, and ruled in order to submit to the ways of God. It must be renewed to operation of the Kingdom for the Spirits use.
  - a) It is true that until broken the soul wants to be its own master. Therefore the cross makes it a useful servant. *"I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me."* (Galatians 2:20, NKJV)
  - b) The man who is alive in Christ, quickly understands that his greatest difficulty lies in his soul (Ihis outward man) which hinders him from using his spirit or walking in the Spirit. The outward man, the soul, hinders us from using our spirit. *"If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit."* (Galatians 5:25, NKJV)
  - c) The one who is most used by God is the one whose inward man can be released.

- B. The Lord wants to break our outward man, in order for the inward man to have a way out. When this happens both saint and sinner alike will experience the grace/goodness of God.
  1. "I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat is planted in the soil and dies, it remains alone. But its death will produce many new kernels—a plentiful harvest of new lives." (John 12:24, NLT)
  2. Jesus tells us in John 12: "Except the grain of wheat falling into the ground die, it abides alone; but if it die, it bears much fruit" (v. 24).
    - a) Life is within the grain of wheat.
    - b) But there is a shell, a very hard shell on the outside." This shell must be broken...much like the shell in each of our lives. Given the right situation the kernel of wheat dies and produces.
- C. The Spirit - inner circle.
- D. The Soul - middle circle - mind will emotions.
- E. The Body - outside circle. The soul and the body make up the outward man. It is what is visible to the natural eye and senses.

## II. Simon the Busted

- A. Simon is 'busted' because his inner man fails to minister to people. His outer man is ruling his life. "If Jesus were a real prophet he would know who is touching Him." What is interesting is the number of people 'busted' in this passage. They are led by the flesh.
  1. Simon the pharisee is busted. Mary ministers to Jesus out of the brokenness of her outer man. Simon had no such experience therefore he could not and would not minister to Jesus. He gave no water to wash Jesus feet. He gave no oil to anoint his head. He gave no kisses of welcome.
  2. Judas is busted. In a cross reference we read that Judas was incensed/deeply angered. Why? He was the money keeper and now he had no access to this money. What is most frightening of the condition of Judas' heart is that this is final breaking point for him and he goes to betray Jesus for 30 pieces of silver. Judas does not have broken outer man therefore he does not have the capacity to love.
  3. The disciples: Why this waste?" Give to the poor - disciples, They were thinking about the value of the work not the value of Jesus. When the outer man is not broke you will work spiritual works without the value of relationship with the Christ...the Lord.
    - a) There is always imminent danger when the cost of love is attempted to be calculated. This precious perfume was not wasted.
    - b) The disciples had the perception that allowed them to understand the price of the perfume but not the purpose of the perfume.
    - c) Logic seems to always interrupt revelation. I am not saying logic is bad. Just when you lean on it alone.
- B. There are 2 reasons for not being broken:
  1. 1. People are so deep in darkness they can't see/recognize the light of God.
  2. 2. "another great hindrance in breaking the outer man is self-love. We must ask God to take away the heart of self-love." Watchman Nee, Self love looks for a way of escape from being broken.

**III. Mary the Broken** Jn 12:3

- A. Mary is broken because she has been crushed under the weight of her sin. Her outer man is broken and the inner man can be released much like the oil in side the alabaster jar.
- B. For most of us the question is not how to obtain "this life." But rather, how to allow this life to come forth.
  - 1. Mary did everything her host would not do. Mary did all three - approached from behind (humility), washed his feet with her tears, dried his feet with her hair, and anointed his feet with the spikenard.
  - 2. She anoints Jesus with pure spikenard.
  - 3. Greek, Pistikos=pure, genuine, unadulterated. When the soul/outman is broken the inner man, the redeemed spirit filled man can minister in pure ways.
  - 4. "many are still treasuring the alabaster box, thinking that its value exceeds that of the ointment. Many think that their outward man is more precious than their inward man." So they live to protect it rather than let it be broken.
- C. The aim of the Lord is to break the outward man whether we know it or not
  - 1. The cross reduces the outward man to death.'
  - 2. *"I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat is planted in the soil and dies, it remains alone. But its death will produce many new kernels—a plentiful harvest of new lives."* (John 12:24, NLT) The out part of the seed must die for Life that is in the seed to be released.
  - 3. The outward man is only the container for that which is most precious. When broken, it releases the fragrance of Jesus Christ in us.
- D. The precious oil was meant to be given away.
  - 1. There is a purpose for all things in life and the greatest waste in life comes from hoarding things, in keeping them from their proper use in life. The perfume would have been wasted had it not been used.
    - a) Some hoard up bitterness when they ought to let go of long past and often forgotten hurts.
    - b) Some hoard up anger when they ought to pour out forgiveness.
    - c) Some hoard up jealousy when they should find contentment with life.
    - d) Some hoard up long nurtured grudges when they ought to pour out thankfulness.
    - e) Some hoard up old hurts when they ought to give in to spiritual healing.
    - f) Some hoard up past mistakes of others when they ought to hold themselves to the same expectations. . .this will generate mercy in your life.
  - 2. Hoarded up perfume will never become a memorial before God. It is only when we really let things pour out of our spirits that God can use us as He sees fit.
  - 3. Mary had to break open the alabaster box. If she would not have broken the vase, her heart would have been broken.

**IV. Jesus the Anointed**

- A. Jesus was broken for us. His brokenness released to us what He carried on His inside.
- B. Jesus is the one anointed in this group because Mary's inner man is able and equipped to minister to Jesus. Her inner man is release through a broken outer man.

- C. This world will be touched by the anointing of Christ (The Anointed) when we our outer man is broken thereby releasing the fragrance of Jesus Christ.
- D. Jacob - had a history of being broken. Finished life leaning on his staff and worshipping. Her 11:21

**Conclusion:**

- In the final analysis God is after our will for it is this which represents the self.
- There is another step of spiritual maturity that is placed before you today. Most people will accept and follow Jesus; they will receive his forgiveness and even repent of their sins. But to give EVERYTHING! That is just too much!

Spikenard and an alabaster box is... To get spikenard to Israel was a perilous journey from Nepal to Israel. Many lost their goods on the journey home to Israel. This ointment sold well. Notice, spikenard is made from the roots and stems of the spikenard plant. You have to grow the plant to maturity and then kill it to get the fragrance out because the fragrance was in the roots of the plant.