

# The Woman, Mary

## “Wasted on Jesus”

Mark 14:3-9; Matthew 26:6-13, Luke 7:36-50

### Matthew 26

6. While Jesus was in Bethany in the home of a man known as Simon the Leper, 7. a woman came to him with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume, which she poured on his head as he was reclining at the table. 8. When the disciples saw this, they were indignant. **"Why this waste?"** they asked. 9. "This perfume could have been sold at a high price and the money given to the poor." 10. Aware of this, Jesus said to them, "Why are you bothering this woman? She has done a beautiful thing to me. 11. The poor you will always have with you, but you will not always have me. 12. When she poured this perfume on my body, she did it to prepare me for burial. **13. I tell you the truth, wherever this gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will also be told, in memory of her.**"

### Mark 14:3-9

3. While he was in Bethany, reclining at the table in the home of a man known as Simon the Leper, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume, made of pure nard. She **broke the jar** and poured the perfume on his head. 4. Some of those present were saying indignantly to one another, **"Why this waste of perfume?"** 5. It could have been sold for more than a year's wages and the money given to the poor." And they rebuked her harshly. 6. "Leave her alone," said Jesus. "Why are you bothering her? She has done a beautiful thing to me. 7. The poor you will always have with you, and you can help them any time you want. But you will not always have me. 8. She did what she could. She poured perfume on my body beforehand to prepare for my burial. 9. **I tell you the truth, wherever the gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will also be told, in memory of her.**"

## Mary Magdalene – sinful woman

### Luke 7:36-50

36. Now one of the Pharisees invited Jesus to have dinner with him, so he went to the Pharisee's house and reclined at the table. 37. When a woman who had lived a sinful life in that town learned that Jesus was eating at the Pharisee's house, she brought an alabaster jar of perfume, 38. and as she stood behind him at his feet weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears. Then she wiped them with her hair, kissed them and poured perfume on them. 39. When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would know who is touching him and what kind of woman she is--that she is a sinner." 40. Jesus answered him, "**Simon**, I have something to tell you." "Tell me, teacher," he said. 41. "Two men owed money to a certain moneylender. One owed him five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. 42. Neither of them had the money to pay him back, so he canceled the debts of both. Now which of them will love him more?" 43. Simon replied, "I suppose the one who had the bigger debt canceled." "You have judged correctly," Jesus said. 44. Then he turned toward the woman and said to **Simon**, "Do you see this woman? I came into your house. You did not give me any water for my feet, but she wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. 45. You did not give me a kiss, but this woman, from the time I entered, has not stopped kissing my feet. 46. You did not put oil on my head, but she has poured perfume on my feet. 47. Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven--for she loved much. But he who has been forgiven little loves little." 48. Then Jesus said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." 49. The other guests began to say among themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?" 50. Jesus said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

## Martha, Lazarus and Mary

### John 12:1-8

1. Six days before the Passover, Jesus arrived at Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. 2. Here a dinner was given in Jesus' honor. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him. 3. Then **Mary** took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. 4. But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected, 5. "Why wasn't this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year's wages." 6. He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it. 7. "Leave her alone," Jesus replied. "[It was intended] that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial. 8. You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me."

# The Gospel of Mark

The Gospel of Stories – 31 people transformed

Stewart Hamblin – *It Is No Secret What God Can Do*

## Powerful Life-Changing Encounters With Jesus Christ

When Jesus comes into your life He comes to bring change.

You will never be the same again

## Transformed Lives

1. John Mark - Mark 1 "Lessons from a Failure" - Mark's Muffed Ministry
2. John the Baptist: - Mark 1:2-14 "Prepare the Way"
3. Destined Disciples: - Mark 1:14 "Life Worth the Wager" - Betting it all
4. Possessed Man: - Mark 1:21 "Loosed from bondage" - Every man's battle
5. Mother-in-law: - Mark 1:30 "Useful Again" - Throw mama from the train
6. The Untouchable Leper: Mark 1:40 "Lonely People Need the Lord" - New lease on life
7. "Simon the Cyrene": - Mark 15:21 - "Simon Says"

## Transformed Givers

8. A Little Boy's Lunch: - Mark 6:30 "Giving What You've Got"
  9. Widow's Mite: - Mark 12:41 "Missed Opportunities"
- # Alabaster Box: - Mark 14:1-11 "Wasted on Jesus"
- # Rich Young Ruler: - Mark 10:17-31 "Leaving It All Behind" - Let Go and Let God

## PREACHED

- 5-07-06 Mark 14:1-11 - Alabaster Box: - "Wasted on Jesus"
- 4-14-06 Good Friday Simon the Cyrenian
- 4-09-06 Mark 12:38-44 A Widow's Coins
- 4-02-06 Mark 6:34-44 A Lad's Little Lunch
- 3-26-06 Mark 1:40-45 The Lonely Leper
- 3-12-06 Mark 1:29-31 Peter' Mother-in-law
- 3-5-06 Mark 1:35-38 Jesus & The Father
- 2-19-06 Mark 1:21 The Possessed Man
- 2-12-06 Mark 1:16-19 The Disciple's Call
- 2-5-06 Mark 1:2-8 John the Baptist
- 1-29-06 Mark 1:1 John Mark's Story

## TO BE PREACHED

- # Lost Vision\Blessings - Mark 6:1-6 "Missing Out on the Blessing" - Impossible Faith
- # Desperate Housewives: - Mark 7:24 - "Phonocian Women, Dogs Eat Crumbs"
- # Tough Tormented Kids: - Mark 9:14 - "Having a Fit"
- # Four Friends: - Mark 2:1 - "Real Friends Bring Hurting People To Jesus"
- # Lunch With Levi: - Mark 2:13 - "When the Up and Coming are Down and Out"
- # Man with the Withered Hand: - Mark 3:1 "Withered Lives" - Jesus straightened me out
- # Legion: - Mark 5:1 "Go and Tell Family and Friends" - No one is hopeless

# The Woman With An Alabaster Jar

## *Mary Magdalene - "Wasted on Jesus"*

Mark 14:3-9; Matthew 26:6-13, Luke 7:36-50, John 12:1-8

### 1. The Actor – The Woman

Whose house? Simon the Leper or Lazarus? John 12

Who is the woman?

Woman taken in adultery?

Mary of Martha's home?

Mary Magdalene? Mark 16:9 *"Out of her was cast seven devils."*

### 2. The Action – The Jar

Alabaster Box, Jar of ointment

Broken and spilled out, poured at his feet

Why? Much was forgiven, much loved

While living, while there is time, waste something precious on Jesus

### 3. The Reaction – Shock

Why this waste?

What Is Wasted on Jesus?

Wasted Lives

Wasted Opportunities

Wasted Gifts/Offerings/Tithes

### 4. The Acceptance – His Worth-ship

You have the poor always

Only what's done for Christ will last

An Act that lasted for eternity

Treasure in Heaven where moth and rust do not corrupt

### Conclusion: Our Opportunity

Investing in God's Kingdom, Jesus' work

Saving Souls or saving money

Reaching out or holding back

Stretching or Shriveling/Atrophy

**Time** – devotion

**Talent** – missions

**Treasure** – pledge

### The Need –

No room for more to gather

Pledge Campaign – 3-year commitment

The Opportunity – May 7 – Treasure, Talent, Time

## How much do I love Jesus?

1. It was an act of deep emotion. (Loved much)
2. It was an act that was criticized. (Criticized and murmured)
3. It was a costly sacrificial offering.
4. It was an act that honored Jesus.

### **Dick Eastman – Bad Sermon at a College**

25 years ago in Sacramento, California.

**Wallet** – everything I have in the world

How much do you love me? Frugal cash saved.

Lifted up song –

God is not a man that he should lie

He hath blessed and I cannot reverse it. **Numbers 23:19**

Wind as students came forward

Jesus said, “This is foundational...”

Offering \$27,000 down payment of building

**Violin** – laid it down on altar laid it down, opened start to leave

I have been violinist, contests, awards, never for Jesus glory

My glory – I will never touch it again

Rock and Roll 8-track (Led Zeplin)

Car keys

Trophy and photos – beauty pageant, on my dresser

(Abraham, God said, “Now I know”)

Another church – golf shoes

**Whatever I have holding back for myself** – I surrender it at your feet  
God cannot and will not use what is not surrendered, laid down on  
the altar.

*Numbers 23:19-20- "God is not a man, that He should lie; neither the son of man, that He should repent. He hath blessed; and I cannot reverse it."*

2 Corinthians 5:15 And *that* he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again.

## **Illustrations**

Expensive Gifts – Clive Christian N° 1, “Joy” Jean Patou

Wasted on Jesus – Jim Goll, Bruce Bickle

Watchman Nee – The Normal Christian Live

Dick Eastman Story – Christian College

# Broken And Spilled Out

Bill George / Gloria Gaither / Steve Green

## Verse 1

One day a plain village woman  
Driven by love for her Lord  
Recklessly poured out a valuable essence  
Disregarding the scorn  
And once it was broken and spilled out  
A fragrance filled all the room  
Like a pris'ner released from his shackles  
Like a spirit set free from the tomb

## Chorus

*Broken and spilled out  
Just for love of You Jesus  
My own precious treasure  
Lavished on Thee  
Broken and spilled out  
And poured at Your feet  
In sweet abandon  
Let me be spilled out  
And used up for Thee*

## Verse 2

Whatever it takes to be Yours Lord  
Whatever it takes to be clean  
I just can't live without Your sweet approval  
No matter what it may mean  
I throw myself at Your feet Lord  
Broken by Your love for me  
May the fragrance of total commitment  
Be the only defense I need

## Chorus

*Broken and spilled out  
Just for love of me Jesus  
God's most precious treasure  
Lavished on me  
You were broken and spilled out  
And poured at my feet  
In sweet abandon Lord  
You were spilled out and used up for me*

## Verse 3

Lord You were God's precious treasure  
His loved and His own perfect Son  
Sent here to show me  
The love of the Father  
Just for love it was done  
And though You were perfect and holy  
You gave up Yourself willingly  
And You spared no expense for my pardon  
You were spilled out and wasted for me

## Chorus

*Broken and spilled out  
Just for love of me Jesus  
God's most precious treasure  
Lavished on me  
You were broken and spilled out  
And poured at my feet  
In sweet abandon Lord  
You were spilled out and used up for me*

© 1984 William J. Gaither, Inc. \Yellow House Music ARR UBP of  
Gaither Broken and Spilled Out by Steve Green

## The Woman's Identity

Mary of Bethany, sister of Martha and Lazarus, so she is called in John 11:1-2.

Luke 7:37-38 identifies Mary of Bethany as the sinner woman who anointed Jesus feet.

**John 11:1** Now a certain *man* was sick, *named* Lazarus, of Bethany, the town of Mary and her sister Martha. 2 (It was *that* Mary which anointed the Lord with ointment, and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was sick.)

**John 12:1** Then Jesus six days before the passover came to Bethany, where Lazarus was which had been dead, whom he raised from the dead. 2 There they made him a supper; and Martha served: but Lazarus was one of them that sat at the table with him. 3 Then took Mary a pound of ointment of spikenard, very costly, and anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped his feet with her hair: and the house was filled with the odour of the ointment.

**Luke 7:37** And, behold, a woman in the city, which was a sinner, when she knew that *Jesus* sat at meat in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster box of ointment, 38 And stood at his feet behind *him* weeping, and began to wash his feet with tears, and did wipe *them* with the hairs of her head, and kissed his feet, and anointed *them* with the ointment.

**John 8:7** So when they continued asking him, he lifted up himself, and said unto them, He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her

## Nard

Grows in the foothills of the Himalayas . Horace offered to send Virgil a whole barrel of his best wine in exchange for a **phial of nard**. Though nard is now rare on the shelves of the western perfumer, its name stood for centuries as an evocation of the perfume of the **lost Garden of Eden**, and in literature, nard came to refer to any perfume, as long as it was exquisite.

Pliny, in his Natural History, lists twelve species of nard, ranging from lavender stoechas and tuberous valerian to true nard – *Nardostachys jatamansi*. Price lists dating from this period suggest that this pure nard, with which Christ was anointed at Bethany, might already have been produced by a form of distillation.

By relating that it was contained in an alabaster flask, Mark (14,3) and Matthew (26,7) further underline the precious nature of the nard given to Christ.

**Year's Wages – at \$8.00 hour is about \$16,000.**

## Mary, Martha and Lazarus

Tradition of their later years. fled Jerusalem to Cyprus about the time Stephen was stoned. Persecuted by Jews placed in a boat with Mary, Martha, Lazarus, their servant, Marcella, and another of the 70 disciples, Maximin. Boat without sail miraculously sailed and arrives at Marseilles, France. Where Lazarus founded a church and became bishop. Martha founded a convent for women, and Mary lived a life of prayer in solitude on the top a high mountain as an "anchoress," like Anna in the temple.

In the middle ages an Anchoress was a woman who lived in a small, sealed room inside a church; she would have visual access to the Sanctuary and to Holy Communion. Usually there was also a small side window at which she could converse with visitors, receive foods, etc. Usually an Anchorite was rather a mystical and wise sort of person, steeped in prayer.

# The Man, The Company, The Fragrances

Jean Patou fragrances are special for good reason. Here is some background that will help you understand why Jean Patou fragrances are worth every penny of their price!

Created for Patou by Henri Alméras, the cost of the raw materials going into **Joy** was considered (even by Alméras!) to be ridiculously expensive, involving (so it was said!) 10600 flowers and 28 dozen roses — 10 percent (real) Bulgarian Rose! And (expensive!) Jasmine. As a result, Joy retained for about three times what most perfumes cost. It remains outrageously costly today.

Today the Patou perfume licenses and trademarks are owned by Procter & Gamble Prestige Beauté, which as rewarded contemporary Patou followers (such as actresses Gwyneth Paltrow and Julia Roberts) by remaining faithful to the Patou tradition of using only the best quality (and more expensive!) materials for their fragrances.

Is there any perfume more expensive than Jean Patou's 1000, which sells for about \$720/ounce?

The most expensive off-the-shelf perfume is apparently "Clive Christian No 1." A **one-ounce bottle** can be yours for **\$1820** from Nordstrom (among other retailers). Here is a link to the ordering page on the Nordstrom Web site: Nordstrom: Clive Christian No. 1 = \$29,120



Clive Christian No. 1 perfume seems to be the world's most expensive over the counter perfume available starting at just under \$2,000.00 USD for a 1 oz. bottle.

Now back to Clive Christian No. 1, for a small up charge one can have the bottle customized to suit one's whim and that's just what Sir Elton John did, paying about \$250,000.00 USD for a bottle of Clive Christian No. 1 in the shape of a, you guessed it, piano.

**Gianni Vive Sulman created Parfum VI** after being inspired by the Rolls-Royce Phantom Six and the box is even made by Rolls-Royce coach builders. The box is made of exotic wood and gold and the key made of gold, diamonds and rubies which justify the nearly \$90,000.00 USD price tag. Only 173 bottles were ever made.