THE BOOKFOLIO

WORSHIPING THE FATHER
IN SPIRIT AND IN TRUTH

MARY OF BETHANY

SAGA 9 OF 10 • JOHN 12



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THE BOOKFOLIO

Worshiping the Father in Spirit and in Truth

SAGA 9 OF 10 — MARY OF BETHANY

All Scripture is from the King James Version. The words of Jesus are printed in red.

This book holds one saga by itself, with the same words shared on its morning.

THE KEY VERSE

"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."

— JOHN 12:3

THE SAGA — MARY OF BETHANY (JOHN 12)

Six days before the cross, in the house of the family Jesus loved, Mary did something nobody at the table expected. She took a pound of ointment of spikenard — worth a year of a working man's wages, likely the most precious thing she owned — and poured it out:

> "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." — JOHN 12:3

Judas called it waste and hid his greed behind concern for the poor. But Jesus defended her:

"Let her alone: against the day of my burying hath she kept this." — JOHN 12:7

Mary had once sat at His feet to hear His word; now she knelt at His feet to pour out her treasure. Worship in spirit is like that: it does not count the cost first. It gives the Lord what is precious — and the fragrance fills the whole house.

JESUS IN THIS SAGA

Jesus did not turn her worship away. He received it, and He defended it. Of the woman who anointed Him in Bethany, Jesus said her act would be told wherever the gospel is preached in the whole world:

> "Verily I say unto you, Wheresoever this gospel shall be preached in the whole world, there shall also this, that this woman hath done, be told for a memorial of her." — MATTHEW 26:13

And here you are, reading her story today — in a book about worship. He kept His word.

THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THIS SAGA

Mary knew the Lord's heart because she had sat at His feet and listened to His words. The Holy Spirit keeps those words alive in us. He brings back to our minds what Jesus said, right when we need it — that is His own promise:

> "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you." — JOHN 14:26

CARRY THIS WITH YOU TODAY

What made Mary's act worship, and not waste — as Judas saw it?

— From "Worshiping the Father in Spirit and in Truth," a 10-day devotional by Terrell Powell, Open Collaboration

JOURNAL

Write what you believe the Lord is asking you to pour out — your time, your gift, your treasure, your pride — and when you will do it.



ABOUT THIS SAGA

Mary took the most precious thing she owned — a pound of costly ointment — and poured it all out on the feet of Jesus. Judas called it waste. Jesus called it worship, and said her story would be told wherever the gospel is preached.

This is the ninth saga. It is worship that pours out: giving the Lord what is precious, without counting the cost first.

This book is Saga 9 of 10 from "Worshiping the Father in Spirit and in Truth." Each saga also has its own book, and all ten sagas stand together in the full book.

"Let her alone: against the day of my burying hath she kept this."

— JOHN 12:7 (KJV)

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