

A Meal to Reveal the Heart



John 12:1-11

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Your physical heart weights a pound or a little less, but it pumps 100,000 times a day--pushing 2,000 gallons of blood through 60,000 miles of arteries, capillaries, and veins. The Bible speaks about the heart as the core or center of being. the issues of life" (Proverbs 4:23).

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The heart is where you decide, desire, and deliberate: It is the core of your being. "Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life" (Proverbs 4:23).

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According to the Bible, your heart is affected by the fall of mankind: ""The human heart is most deceitful and desperately wicked. Who really knows how bad it is?" (Jeremiah 17:9 NLT)

Whether young or old, rich or poor, the same truth applies: "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God," (Romans 3:23).

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Some live their whole lives with a heart unchanged, unchallenged, unaltered: unsaved. Others meet Christ and He changes them from the inside out.

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When we step into this scene at Bethany, we see some familiar faces: Jesus, Lazarus, Martha, Mary, the disciples. This occurs one week before His death on the cross. If we could step into their hearts, we would find different motives: good, bad, grateful, greedy, loving, and angry

III. Divine Stewardship (vv. 7-8) Jesus weighs in

Affirms Mary

Hebrew idiom: to sit at someone's feet is to learn
from that person

Rebukes Judas

III. Divine Stewardship (vv. 7-8) Jesus weighs in

Quoting scripture:

"There will always be some among you who are poor. That is why I am commanding you to share your resources freely with the poor and with other Israelites in need"

(Deuteronomy 15:11 NLT)

III. Divine Stewardship (vv. 7-8) Jesus weighs in

There will always be opportunities for generous activity but you must seize opportunities for personal ministry

We have unique opportunities in this life

Give money

Share the gospel

IV. Diabolical Censorship (vv. 9-11)

The irreducible minimum: it is impossible to be neutral concerning Jesus Christ. "He who is not with Me is against Me, and he who does not gather with Me scatters abroad" (Matthew 12:30).

IV. Diabolical Censorship (vv. 9-11)

The stand you take determines your own destiny, not His! Peter stated: "Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved" (Acts 4:12). Your heart can be Christ's Home! (*My Heart—Christ's Home* by Robert Boyd Munger).