

Mary and Judas

In Mark 14:3-9, we read the beautiful and tender story of a woman anointing Jesus with costly ointment. John's account reveals the woman to be Mary, the sister of Lazarus and Martha. Following the beautiful story of Mary, we read of Judas' plan to betray Jesus. Mark paints a stark contrast for us in these two stories; a humble, generous, loving woman; and a greedy, traitorous wolf in sheep's clothing. Appearances can be deceiving. True disciples are not those that merely look like one and convince other people of their faith. True disciples are those who humbly seek to serve and honor the Lord. Who are you more like? Mary, or Judas?

Mary	Judas
Had a Loving Heart	Had a Loveless Heart
Gave Generously	Coveted Greedily
Praised Jesus Openly	Plotted Against Jesus Secretly
Attributed Worth to Christ	Betrayed Jesus for Money
Pursued Heavenly Values	Sought Earthly Treasure
Is Remembered for Her Unselfish Service	Is Remembered as a Traitor

*Adapted from Tyndale Handbook of Bible Charts and Maps

- Which two Old Testament men appeared on the mountain of transfiguration with Jesus?

- "Therefore what God has joined _____, let no man _____" (NKJV)
- Which two disciples asked to sit on the left and right of Jesus in His glory? _____
- Which group of Jewish leaders believed there was no resurrection? _____
- What did Mary use to anoint Jesus? _____
- Did Jesus confess that He was the Christ, the Son of the Blessed? _____
- What does "Golgotha" mean? _____
- Mark 15:34 records that Jesus said, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?" Which Psalm begins with that same phrase? _____
- Who was the first person Jesus appeared to after His resurrection? _____
- Why did Jesus rebuke the eleven disciples after His resurrection? _____

"That You May Grow Thereby..."

A weekly Bible reading plan

28

Mark 9-16

Jesus: Son and Servant (Part 2)

Overview

As we saw last week, Mark's gospel is an action packed account of the life and work of Jesus. In the first half of the book, we read of Jesus' early ministry through a flurry of activity. Following His baptism by John and the subsequent trial in the wilderness, Jesus launched His campaign against the enemy. Healing the sick, casting out evil spirits, and working powerful miracles Jesus showed Himself to be the Messiah—God's perfect Servant.

As we come to the latter half of Mark's testimony, we will encounter some of Jesus' teaching. Mark focuses more on what Jesus does, but he does include a grouping of parables, conversations, and sermons of Jesus. Beginning in chapter 11, Mark focuses in on the final week of Jesus' life. This incredible week takes up a fourth of Mark's gospel! From the triumphal entry to the cross, Mark records the important events of Jesus' final week before the crucifixion. From tender scenes of service to bitter acts of betrayal, we see a picture of how all people respond to Jesus—either in obedience or rejection. Of course, the rejection of God's servant that lead to Jesus' crucifixion did not undermine God's plan—it accomplished it. In Mark's final chapter, he records for us the glorious victory found in Jesus' resurrection, and the gospel message of hope and salvation that arose from it!

Suggested Reading Schedule

Monday: Mark 9

Tuesday: Mark 10

Wednesday: Mark 11-12

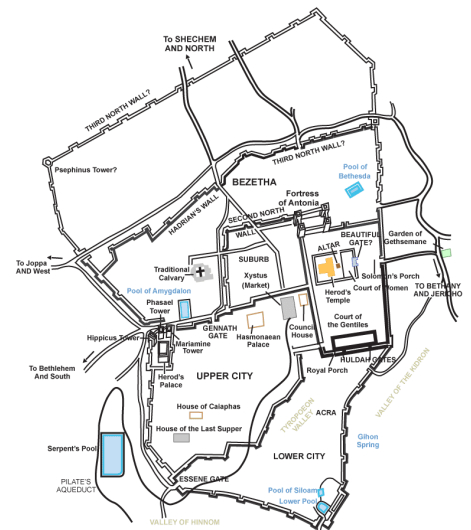
Thursday: Mark 13-14

Friday: Mark 15-16



Mark's gospel portrays Jesus as the perfect servant. This

is most poignantly expressed in Mark 10:45, where Jesus reminds His disciples that, "...even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve..." How amazing—Jesus left Heaven and became flesh to *serve* us! There is more to learn though. If Jesus was willing to serve us, we ought to be willing to serve others. In fact, we cannot fully serve God if we refuse to serve His people. What can you do this week to be of service to others? What can you do to serve instead of being served?



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