

What Is He Like?

THE NATURE OF JESUS

a conversation during Lent

Today's Scripture Reading:

MATTHEW 26:1-13

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When Jesus had finished all these sayings, he said to his disciples, ² "You know that after two days the Passover is coming, and the Son of Man will be delivered up to be crucified." ³ Then the chief priests and the elders of the people gathered in the palace of the high priest, whose name was Caiaphas, ⁴ and plotted together in order to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him. ⁵ But they said, "Not during the feast, lest there be an uproar among the people."

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⁶ Now when Jesus was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, ⁷ a woman came up to him with an alabaster flask of very expensive ointment, and she poured it on his head as he reclined at table. ⁸ And when the disciples saw it, they were indignant, saying, "Why this waste? ⁹ For this could have been sold for a large sum and given to the poor." ¹⁰ But Jesus, aware of this, said to them, "Why do you trouble the woman? For she has done a beautiful thing to me. ¹¹ For you always have the poor with you, but you will not always have me. ¹² In pouring this ointment on my body, she has done it to prepare me for burial.

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¹³ Truly, I say to you, wherever this gospel is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will also be told in memory of her."

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“We should not lose sight of the echo here of the anointing with the Holy Spirit that took place in chapter 3. Jesus was anointed by God in preparation for his public ministry; he is now anointed by the woman in preparation for his death and burial. The first anointing was in preparation for the work of his life; the second is in preparation for the work of his death.”

Campbell, I. D. (2008). Opening up Matthew

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THREE WAYS WE CAN MISS THE BEAUTIFUL THING THIS WOMAN HAS DONE FOR JESUS:

1. Nothing that is intended to worship God should be costly.
2. Elevating the poor to high can lead to ignoring Jesus.
3. Why fight a losing battle, poverty will always be here.

DEUTERONOMY 15:11: For there will never cease to be poor in the land. Therefore I command you, 'You shall open wide your hand to your brother, to the needy and to the poor, in your land.'

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GOD IS SOVEREIGN

GOD IS DISCERNING
AND DESIRES THE SAME
OF HIS PEOPLE

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