

Questions for John 12:1-19

1. Where was the city of Bethany in relation to Jerusalem? Notice the similar setting with the account in Luke 10:38-42 and these verses. In both instances, Martha is preparing the meal, while Mary is with Jesus. Which of the two women performed the more necessary task? What might be the correct balance between providing hospitality and engaging in spiritual matters? (Verses 1-2)

2. What is spikenard oil? What is it used for? Why did she wipe his feet with her hair? (Verse 3)

3. Why was Judas upset about the use of the spikenard oil on Jesus? What does this account tell us about Judas as a person? (Verses 4-6)

4. What was the significance of Mary's action? The parallel accounts in Matthew and Mark say that Mary's action would be spoken of wherever the gospel would be preached. Why is this the case and how was this accomplished? (Verses 7-8)

5. How did the resurrection of Lazarus continue to have influence over the multitudes? What were the chief priests going to do to Lazarus? (Verses 9-11, 17-19)

6. Why did Jesus make a triumphal entry into Jerusalem? What prophesy did it fulfill? How did the disciples perception of these events change over time? (Verses 12-16)