

# Gospel of Mark

Anointed  
Mark 14:1-21

theme

Are we willing to follow Jesus to the cross?

Anointed

Betrayed

Passover

## ANOINTED

### Mark 14:1-2

“After two days it was the Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread. And the chief priests and the scribes sought how they might **take Him by trickery and put Him to death**. But they said, “**Not during the feast**, lest there be an uproar of the people.”

plot to kill Jesus is well underway

the Passover and the large crowds gathered in Jerusalem for the Passover, they would seek a better opportunity

Jesus is just outside of Jerusalem in Bethany, at the house of Simon the leper when a woman comes bringing a bottle of expensive perfume which she uses to anoint Jesus.

### Mark 14:3-5

“And being in Bethany at the house of Simon the leper, as He sat at the table, a woman came having an alabaster flask of **very costly oil** of spikenard. Then she broke the flask and poured it on His head. But there were some who were **indignant among themselves**, and said, “Why was this fragrant oil wasted? For it might have been sold for more than three hundred denarii and given to the poor.” And they criticized her sharply.”

perfume; about the equivalent of one year's wages

the woman criticized

### Mark 14:6-8

“But Jesus said, “Let her alone. Why do you trouble her? She has done a good work for Me. For you have the poor with you always, and whenever you wish you may do them good; but **Me you do not have always**. She has done what she could. She has come beforehand to anoint **My body for burial**.”

the cross is before Jesus

may not be time to prepare His body for burial

did she realize what she was doing? More than likely not

no more than the disciples understand what she is doing

## PLOT TO BETRAY

### **Mark 14:10-11**

“Then Judas Iscariot, one of the twelve, went to the chief priests **to betray Him** to them. 11 And when they heard it, they were glad, and promised to give him money. So he sought how he might **conveniently betray** Him.”

plot was carried out for 30 pieces of silver (ref. Matt. 26:14)

Judas would betray Jesus for about a month's worth of wages (*contrast to the woman's gift*)

one person gave all - the other sought how they could “gain” from Jesus

Jesus says, “**follow Me.**”

following Jesus to the cross will not be an easy road to travel

## THE PASSOVER

### Mark 14:17-21

“[In the evening](#) He came with the twelve. Now as they sat and ate, Jesus said, "Assuredly, I say to you, one of you who eats with Me will betray Me." And they began to be sorrowful, and to say to Him one by one, "Is it I?" And another said, "Is it I?" He answered and said to them, "It is one of the twelve, who dips with Me in the dish. The Son of Man indeed goes just as it is written of Him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been good for that man if he had never been born.”

This passage hyperlinks us back to **(Mark 11)** where Jesus had sent the disciples into the city earlier.

### Mark 11:1-3

“Now when they drew near Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, He sent two of His disciples; and He said to them, "Go into the village opposite you; and as soon as you have entered it you will find a colt tied, on which no one has sat. Loose it and bring it. And if anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord has need of it,' and immediately he will send it here.”

Jesus enters Jerusalem in the daytime and is greeted by large crowds who are celebrating and praising God's Messiah.

in **(Mark 14)**, our attention is drawn to another contrast

this time as Jesus enters Jerusalem, it is not in the daytime but the [evening](#)

not with large crowds celebrating and praising God's Messiah.

Jesus enters in the cover of night (ref. Mk. 14:17).

study questions

What contrasts does the passage present between the woman and Judas?

What would the equivalent of 30 pieces of silver be today?

What contrasts are presented in Mark 11 vv1-3 and Mark 14 vv17-21?

What motivated Judas to betray Jesus?

What are my motives for following Jesus?

