



Plots & Praise

Nov 6

INTRODUCTION: We're back in Mark! Chs. 11–13 were about Jesus' authority being challenged and vindicated. Now as we turn to His Passion week we'll see how He becomes the King. Still, Jesus is evoking very different responses, which we will see in this sandwich: plot, love, betrayal.

REVIEW: [Mark](#) (be cautious with other videos)

KEY POINT: arrest, a beautiful thing, betrayal

A.M. SERMON RECAP (Phil 1:3–6, Bill Barwick)

- What was the sermon about?
- What were the key points?
- Key takeaways...? Questions to keep considering?

P.M. SERMON RECAP (Doug Reider)

- What was the sermon about?
- What were the key points?
- Key takeaways...? Questions to keep considering?

READ: Mk 14:1–11

QUESTIONS:

Arrest (vv. 1–2)

1. *The Passover was celebrated first, followed on by the Feast of Unleavened Bread. Jerusalem's population would swell by 5x.*
2. **Looking back to Mk 13, why were the religious leaders seeking to arrest and kill Jesus? Why weren't they seeking the Messiah? What can distract us from following the real Jesus?**
3. If they wouldn't voice public criticism of John (11:32), how much more wouldn't they arrest Jesus in public?
4. **Why by stealth? Why such sudden urgency? Why did they figure they needed to get Him before the feast? (Was this pre-emptive lest He claim His crown?).**

5. Can you arrest God? Who had they failed to recognize Jesus as after all of this? How can our pride blind us?
6. **Eph 5:8–11; 1 Jn 2:9–11- why do people do things in secret?**

Anointing (vv. 3–9)

7. *A teaching moment in the midst of explaining the plot and how Judas becomes the betrayer. If they are the same story (Gospel writers often arrange thematically vs. chronologically), John 12:3 notes this as Mary. Simon may have been the father of the family Jesus was staying with.*
8. *Nard is a costly oil extracted from a root grown in India. Such oils were used to anoint guests, for acts of consecration and for burial. It was worth some 300 days wages!*¹
9. While it was common to anoint a guest, why was this seen as a wild extravagance?
10. *The guests privately note the waste. We all make private judgements. How ought we be slow to judge and judge with right judgement? V. 5- how much help could this have brought to the poor?*
11. *She stands condemned, stupid woman! BUT Jesus shields her- v.6, 'a beautiful thing':*
 - a. **Jesus knows her hidden motive, what is it?**
 - b. **We should care for the poor, yet why will poverty always exist? (Dt 15:11; i.e. utopias never work).**
 - c. **V. 8- Why is this another burial prediction?**
 - d. *This is permissible in the moment because Jesus' won't always be there (c.f. Mk 2:19, the bridegroom).*
 - e. **She is steeped with honour, immortalized! Who do we remember? Who is forgotten?**
12. **How much do we put into worship vs. caring for the poor, privately and corporately as a church? What should the correct balance be? Following the Great Commandment, why have Christians, who care for the poor, generally prioritized worship in some way?**
13. **Which character represents you, Mary or the others? Is Jesus still your first love? (Rev 2)**

¹ \$36,000 CAD.

14. What contrasts exist between the woman and the leaders/Judas?

Betrayal (vv. 10–11) (fulfills Ps 41:9)

15. *Probably offended as the treasurer; Judas realizes Jesus is not the Messiah he thought. **If our Jesus isn't the real Jesus, how can we become disenchanted?***

16. *300 denarii (300 days wages, or a year) and 30 silver (Mt 26:15), or 4 months wages. In OT 30 silver coins was the restitution for a slave gored by an ox (Ex 21:32). **Based upon this contrast, who loves Jesus more?***

17. Leaving Jesus, where does Judas think his future lies?

18. *V. 11- just what they'd been waiting for, and from a disciple!*

19. **How could Judas help ensure the leaders could find Jesus out of sight and mind?**

20. *The plot for His arrest is the first step toward His substitutionary death as the Passover lamb.*

NEXT WEEK: Nov 13- Mark 14:32–42, Gethsemane