

# Gratitude for the Gospel

July 24, 2022  
Mark 14:1-11

Pastor Mark Turner  
Oakbrook Community Church (PCA)

## Introduction

- Jesus entered Jerusalem on Sunday triumphantly
- Jesus taught & confronted in temple
- Religious leaders plot to kill Jesus but afraid of crowds

## A Literary Sandwich

- Betrayal by religious leaders<sup>1-2</sup>
  - Account of a disciple's devotion<sup>3-9</sup>
  - Betrayal by a disciple, Judas<sup>10</sup>
- Contrasting outer stories to emphasize inner story

## Remember the Setting

- Jesus & religious leaders had conflicts
- People loved when Jesus put leaders in their place
- BUT Jesus was not against the Romans<sup>Mk12:13-17</sup>
- Jesus was not what was expected by leaders or people
- Mark's Gospel has shown us this
  - Jesus can forgive sins<sup>Mk2:10-11</sup> leaders say blasphemy
  - Jesus eats w/unclean<sup>Mk2:15-16</sup>
  - Jesus doesn't keep Sabbath<sup>Mk3:6</sup> rules or fasting<sup>Mk2:18</sup>
  - The real Jesus wasn't what they expected!

## The Meat of the Story – A Devoted Disciple

- Simon the leper – healed by Jesus?
- Simon: father of Mary, Martha & Lazarus<sup>Jn11:1?</sup>
- Probably same incident Jn 12:1-7
- Mark is using it as literary device, not chronological
- Mark doesn't tell name – focus on devotion
- Nard, expensive, year's wages... \$30-\$50K
- Consider her bravery to do this intense act!
- Not just a few drops, but the whole bottle!
- Probably poured from Jesus' head<sup>Mk14:3</sup> to feet<sup>Jn12:3</sup>

## The Reactions

- What a waste - Judas<sup>Jn12:4</sup> the thief<sup>Jn12:6</sup>
- Jesus saw her heart<sup>Jn2:24</sup> & defended her<sup>Mk14:6</sup>
- Jesus calls her act – a beautiful thing.
- Worship – you'll always have poor but not me
- Jesus was soon to become poor for us<sup>Mk15:34!</sup>
- Mary anointed Jesus' body for death & burial
- Her act is to be remembered!

## The Other Crust

- Mark then shows us Judas' betrayal<sup>10</sup>
- Judas, friend, betrays Jesus<sup>Ps41:9</sup>

## So What?

- While Mary shows devotion others plan evil
- God uses their evil for His perfect plan of redemption<sup>Gen50:20</sup>
- Though we act like Judas, betrayal, Christ offers salvation!