

## Worship can be Costly...BUT!

*Then took Mary a pound of ointment of spikenard, very costly, and anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped his feet with her hair: and the house was filled with the odour of the ointment. ~ John 12:3*

**Worship can be costly.** For Mary, the cost would not only be her alabaster box and oil, but she would also be analyzed and criticized by Judas. So will you, and so will I. When David danced before the Lord with all his might, stripped down to his undergarments, his wife mocked him (II Samuel 6:20). David went on to continue worshipping the Lord all the days of his life; but Michal ‘had no child unto the day of her death’ (II Samuel 6:23).

**Truly, those who critique or find fault with worship will experience barrenness, dryness, and uselessness.** Ask Michal. Ask Judas. Then ask Mary about worshipping... You see, the ointment she poured out upon Jesus was not used several days earlier on her brother Lazarus because she was saving it for Jesus’ burial. Yet she did not use it at His burial either, for it was Mary Magdalene who went to anoint His body with perfume and spice on Easter morning—not Mary of Bethany. Nor was Mary of Bethany at the foot of the Cross. Mary, the mother of Jesus was there—but not Mary of Bethany.

Why?

Why did Mary of Bethany seemingly have no part in the death and burial of her Lord?—because Mary understood something no one else comprehended. Although Jesus had spoken directly to His disciples, saying, ‘I’m going to die, be buried, and rise again after three days,’ they didn’t get it. Mary is the only one who understood what was going to happen. She alone saw the big picture. She alone understood there was no need to save the ointment for Jesus’ burial—because He wasn’t going to stay buried. There was no need to go to the Cross with the other Marys—because that wouldn’t be the end of the story.

Why did Mary alone have such profound insight?—because she alone was at His feet constantly, expressively, expectantly.

**Be a worshipper** in your morning devotions, in your evening watches; be a worshipper on Sundays and throughout the week. **Be a worshipper and watch and see what will happen,** for, like Mary, **you’ll hear the Lord’s heart; you’ll know things that would be otherwise unknowable.** ~Jon Courson . *A Day's Journey*