

John 11:45-12:11

FOLLOWING THE MESSAGE

1) There is no third, neutral position toward Christ; those who claim to be indifferent are, in reality, opposed to Him.

Pharisees/Sadducees did not get along - had little in common

- Pharisees- devoted to the complete O.T. and human traditions
- Sadducees accepted only the Pentateuch as authoritative (first 5 books)
- Pharisees- primarily from the middle class of Jewish society
- Sadducees- wealthy aristocrats
- Pharisees- ultranationalists/hated the yoke of Rome
- Sadducees- compromising political opportunist
- Pharisees affirmed the resurrection and the existence of angels
- Sadducees rejected both (Matt. 22:23; Acts 23:8)

2) 11:49-50 Caiaphas presented the council with a false either/or dilemma, giving them two extreme alternatives as if there were no other options—either Jesus dies or the nation perishes.

3) 11:51 has an impressive footnote- “...*did not say this on his own*”, meaning, God invested those words w/meaning Caiaphas did not intend.

4) 12:3 Mary had no intention of holding anything back... It was not good enough to give Jesus just some of what she had.

5) 12:3 The Jews considered washing the feet of another person to be degrading. Also, Mary let down her hair, something a respectable Jewish woman did not do in public. Mary was not concerned with shame.

6) 12:4-5 “Judas’ disapproval of Mary’s action related not to loss of opportunity to do more for the poor but to his own loss of opportunity to steal from the common purse.”

7) Consider the contrast- Mary was a worshiper; Judas was a thief. Mary gave to Jesus what was worth a small fortune. Judas sold Jesus for 30 silver pieces. Mary focuses all attention on Jesus; Judas will attempt to dispose of Jesus.

8) God wants you to understand that it is a good thing to be generous toward Him.

9) Do you ever struggle w/wondering if what you bring is good enough? II Cor. 8:12 For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what one does not have.

10) Special Note- Mary’s generosity towards God was calculated. This wasn’t spontaneous. We know that this wasn’t her home; she was a guest and decided before the party she would carry out this intentional action.

11) Can you identify with one of these groups:

- Onlooker
- Wannabee
- Participant

Where do you end up in this evaluation?
More importantly...Where do you want to be?

GREEK WORDS

Deipnon (Supper) main meal of the day- lengthy, w/leisurely conversation
Ekcheo (ek-kheh'-o)- to pour forth:- gush (pour) out