

Time is Short

3/2020 Mark Beard

Text: Mark 14: 1-9 NIV

Now the Passover and the Festival of Unleavened Bread were only two days away, and the chief priests and the teachers of the law were scheming to arrest Jesus secretly and kill him. ²“But not during the festival,” they said, “or the people may riot.”

³While he was in Bethany, reclining at the table in the home of Simon the Leper, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume, made of pure nard. She broke the jar and poured the perfume on his head.

⁴Some of those present were saying indignantly to one another, “Why this waste of perfume? ⁵It could have been sold for more than a year’s wage and the money given to the poor.” And they rebuked her harshly.

⁶“Leave her alone,” said Jesus. “Why are you bothering her? She has done a beautiful thing to me. ⁷The poor you will always have with you, and you can help them any time you want. But you will not always have me. ⁸She did what she could. She poured perfume on my body beforehand to prepare for my burial. ⁹Truly I tell you, wherever the gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will also be told, in memory of her.”

Life, time, the opportunity to repent, to serve, to worship, etc. are all gifts we have, *for a while*. Life in this world is short. Time is short. The woman with the alabaster box of ointment knew this. Consider the *lessons* we can learn from this story.

I. Don't Waste Time God has Given You.

- A. Worrying about what others think
- B. Waiting for the right moment to serve God

II. Don't Wander Through Life Aimlessly.

- A. By just being a spectator to what is happening.
- B. By letting others set your agenda.

III. Don't Waver in Regard to God's Purpose for Your Life.

- A. Make Jesus the complete focus of your acts of service.
- B. Do what you can, whatever it is, “as unto the Lord.”