

THE ANOINTING AT BETHANY

	Matthew 26	Mark 14	Luke 7	John 12
LOCATION: Context – before	<i>The plot to kill Jesus (26:1-5)</i>	<i>The plot to kill Jesus (14:1-2)</i>	<i>Jesus & John the Baptist (7:18-35)</i>	<i>The plot to kill Jesus (provoked by the raising of Lazarus, 11:45-57)</i>
LOCATION: Place & Time	⁶ While Jesus was in Bethany in the home of Simon the Leper,	³ While he was in Bethany, reclining at the table in the home of Simon the Leper,	³⁶ When one of the Pharisees invited Jesus to have dinner with him, he went to the Pharisee's house and reclined at the table.	Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. ² Here a dinner was given in Jesus' honour. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him.
WOMAN	⁷ a woman came to him with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume,	a woman came with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume, made of pure nard.	³⁷ A woman in that town who lived a sinful life learned that Jesus was eating at the Pharisee's house, so she came there with an alabaster jar of perfume.	³ Then Mary took about half a litre of pure nard, an expensive perfume;
ACTION	which she poured on his head as he was reclining at the table.	She broke the jar and poured the perfume on his head.	³⁸ As she stood behind him at his feet weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears. Then she wiped them with her hair, kissed them and poured perfume on them.	she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.
REACTION	⁸ When the disciples saw this, they were indignant. 'Why this waste?' they asked. ⁹ 'This perfume could have been sold at a high price and the money given to the poor.'	⁴ Some of those present were saying indignantly to one another, 'Why this waste of perfume?' ⁵ It could have been sold for more than a year's wages and the money given to the poor.' And they rebuked her harshly.	³⁹ When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, 'If this man were a prophet, he would know who is touching him and what kind of woman she is – that she is a sinner.'	⁴ But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected, ⁵ 'Why wasn't this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year's wages.' ⁶ He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it.
JESUS	¹⁰ Aware of this, Jesus said to them, 'Why are you bothering this woman? She has done a beautiful thing to me. ¹¹ The poor you will always have with	⁶ 'Leave her alone,' said Jesus. 'Why are you bothering her? She has done a beautiful thing to me. ⁷ The poor you will always have with you, and you	⁴⁰ Jesus answered him, 'Simon, I have something to tell you.' 'Tell me, teacher,' he said. ⁴¹ 'Two people owed money to a certain money-lender. One owed	⁷ 'Leave her alone,' Jesus replied. 'It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial. ⁸ You will always have the poor among you, but

	<p>you, but you will not always have me. ¹²When she poured this perfume on my body, she did it to prepare me for burial. ¹³Truly I tell you, wherever this gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will also be told, in memory of her.'</p>	<p>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.'</p>	<p>him five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. ⁴²Neither of them had the money to pay him back, so he forgave the debts of both. Now which of them will love him more?' ⁴³Simon replied, 'I suppose the one who had the bigger debt forgiven.' 'You have judged correctly,' Jesus said. ⁴⁴Then he turned towards the woman and said to Simon, 'Do you see this woman? I came into your house. You did not give me any water for my feet, but she wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. ⁴⁵You did not give me a kiss, but this woman, from the time I entered, has not stopped kissing my feet. ⁴⁶You did not put oil on my head, but she has poured perfume on my feet. ⁴⁷Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven – as her great love has shown. But whoever has been forgiven little loves little.' ⁴⁸Then Jesus said to her, 'Your sins are forgiven.' ⁴⁹The other guests began to say among themselves, 'Who is this who even forgives sins?' ⁵⁰Jesus said to the woman, 'Your faith has saved you; go in peace.'</p>	<p>you will not always have me.'</p>
<p><i>LOCATION: Context – after</i></p>	<p><i>Judas agrees to betray Jesus (26:14-16)</i></p>	<p><i>Judas agrees to betray Jesus (14:10-11)</i></p>	<p><i>Parable of the sower (8:1-15)</i></p>	<p><i>The Plot to kill Lazarus as well as Jesus (12:9-11)</i></p>