"Following Jesus" John 12: 1-8, 23-26

Outline

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' honor. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him. ³ Then Mary took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.

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.

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 you will not always have me."....

²³Jesus replied, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴ Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. ²⁵ Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶ Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me.

Introduction

I. Abandon Our Pride.

"Holy, Holy, Holy! All the saints adore thee, casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea."

"When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died, my riches gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.... Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small; love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all."

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"God opposes the proud, but shows grace to the humble." James 4:6
II. Discern His Death.
"Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me. Break me, melt me
mold me, fill me." III. Give Him All That We Have.

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IV. Give of Ourselves Completely!

"That is why I am suffering as I am. Yet this is no cause for shame, because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him until that day." 2 Timothy 1:12

"Unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me. (vss. 24-26)