

A Sanctified Sacrifice



The Road To The Cross

A Journey With John Through The Days Leading To The Cross

The Road To The Cross

- In the months before Jesus crucifixion, things were getting very intense with the Pharisees and Chief Priests**
- Jesus was talking more about his coming death. 10:11,17**
- John 10:22 – December before Passover**
- I and the Father are One; Attempted Stoning - 33; 40 – Jesus withdrew across Jordan**
- John 11 – Sometime between Hanukkah and Passover, Jesus came back to Bethany to raise Lazarus (43).**
- The Council plots to kill Jesus and Lazarus. Jesus withdraws to Ephraim**



Lebonah •

Arimathea •

Thamnatha

Lydda

Gophna

Ephraim

Bethel

Gibbethon

Michmash

Jericho (NT)

Gezer

Mount Heres +

Adasa

Cyprus

Abela

Ekron

Timnah

Mount Jearim +

Jerusalem

Mount of Olives +

Bethany

Qumran

VALLEY OF ELAH

Bethlehem

Hyrcania

Tekoa

Herodium

S
E
A

The Context Of John 12

- **When it was time to go Passover, Jesus took his disciples aside and told them what would happen –
Matt.16:21-23; 17:12; 22-23; 20:17-19**
- **Crowds begin to swell as he gets closer to Jerusalem – Jericho
Luke 19:3 – Zacchaeus; Matt.20:29 blind Bartimaeus**
- **John 12 - 6 days before Passover – Friday night sabbath meal**

The Context Of John 12

- **Jesus arrived Friday Afternoon**
- **Dinner probably took place Saturday night**
- **A large crowd gathered because they wanted to see Jesus and Lazarus**
- **The dinner was in the town where Lazarus lived**
- **According to Matthew and Mark it was at Simon's house**
- **Jesus was the honoured guest, Lazarus was there**
- **Martha was helping serve**

The Sacrifice

- **Mary poured about 12oz of nard on Jesus then wiped his feet with her hair**
- **Nard is an expensive perfume imported from northern India**
- **It was worth one year of a labourer's wages \$25-30,000**
- **People were shocked and offended**
 - 1. They felt it was a waste**
 - 2. They felt it wasn't modest**
 - 3. They may have felt it was erotic**

The Reaction By People

- The next day, Sunday, this great crowd, many of whom had put their faith in Him as Messiah, Saviour, heard Jesus was going to Jerusalem and joined Him with Palm Branches crying, “Save” or “Salvation”**
- Jesus predicates His Death – 12:20**
- The Father speaks – 12:28**
- The hardness of human hearts – 12:37-50**

The Reaction By Jesus

1. It was an act of Love

2. It was a worthy Sacrifice

- It cost something – God is worth my best**
- Would you use a \$30,000 bottle of wine for a foot wash?**
- It was an act of humility – My pride is a dishrag to be used in honouring the King**
- It was an act of faith – It shows our confidence is in God to sustain us, not money**

The Reaction By Jesus

- 3. It is not a waste to give something to God**
 - In an act of love, David gave God the thing he loved the most**
 - In an act of faith, the widow gave God what she needed most**
 - In an act of selfishness, the rich young ruler refused the heart of God in caring for the poor**
- 4. It was an act of preparing Jesus for burial**

Looking at Life God's Way

- **Matthews view – Matt. 26:6-13**
- **It is a beautiful thing -10**
 - **The recognition of truth worth before God**
- **You will always have the poor, but you won't always have me. (In the flesh) 11**
 - **The importance of prioritising time and money**
- **She did it to prepare me for my burial**
 - **The understanding and focus of purpose**

What or Who, Are You Sacrificing For?

- To one degree or another, we all sacrifice for something or someone each week**
- What do I give up to my house?**
- To Fashion? To Pride? Reputation? Money?**
- To our Spouse? To our Children? Parents?**
- It is all about your heart as you give it**
- If Jesus was to come to your house for supper tonight, what gift would you give?**
- Do you give it all to sing Hosanna to the King?**