

“LESSONS FROM A LADY”

Mark 14:1-11 July 13, 2014

INTRODUCTION:

The Bible has one meaning – the meaning that God, the divine Author, gave it. But God used human authors in historical settings and human language to communicate that message. Understanding Mark’s style will help us better grasp his message and thus God’s message for people in every generation.

1. Mark’s structure is thematic, not necessarily chronological.
2. Mark’s “sandwich” presentation creates focused attention to his message.

WHAT MADE MARY’S ACTION “A BEAUTIFUL THING” TO JESUS?

1. It was _____.

She grasped the opportunity before it was too late. Had she waited for a “better time,” she’d have missed it all together.

2. It was _____.

“*Very costly*” - Her extravagance was misunderstood and thus criticized by many.

3. It was _____.

“*She has anointed my body for burial*” - She had been listening carefully to what Jesus was saying (*Mark 8:31; 9:31*). Most of the disciples missed it all together but Mary “got it” and acted on it.

CONCLUSION:

Understanding Mark’s intention in writing (1:1) will help us appreciate all the more the way in which he presented it.

1. A series of important questions: Mark 1:27; 2:7; 4:41; 6:4; 8:4
“*Who is this guy?*”
2. A surprising answer from an unexpected source: Mark 15:39
“*Surely, this man was . . .*”