

RESPONDING TO JESUS

--JOHN 12:1-11--

INTRODUCTION:

Beginning this morning we will be looking at some significant events leading up to the resurrection from the Gospel of John. We will not only look at the events, but we will specifically be looking at the people involved in those events. This morning we will be looking at an event that took place six days before the Passover, six days before the Lord Jesus Christ would become our Passover Lamb and be sacrificed for the sins of the world.

As we enter into this passage we will learn or be reminded that there are only two types of people in the world when it comes to the Lord Jesus. Those two types are those who belong to Him and those who have rejected Him. When we are confronted with Jesus Christ one must decide if we are going to believe in Him which leads to eternal life, or if we are not going to believe in Him which will lead to judgment and eternal death in the Lake of fire. In John 12 we see the people of this chapter faced with this same decision and we see how they respond to Jesus.

I. SERVICE (John 12:1-2a)

- a. John gives us an amazing bit of history here to set the stage for the _____ week of our Lord's life.
- b. As we come to chapter 12 there has been a bit of an _____.
- c. It is _____ that He is in Bethany.
- d. In this chapter we are immediately met with this issue of decision to _____ or not believe simply because Jesus is here.
- e. The first person that we meet in this narrative is Martha and she is doing what Martha does best, she is _____. (Matthew 20:26-27)

II. FELLOWSHIP (John 12:2b)

- a. This meal that was in _____ of Jesus was not in the home of Martha, Mary, and Lazarus.

- b. Simon, like Lazarus, had a miraculous _____.
- c. The aspect of the Christian life that is seen in the lives of Simon and Lazarus is _____.

III. WORSHIP (John 12:3)

- a. The next person in this narrative is Mary and she represents another aspect of the Christian life, and it is _____.
- b. A pound of very costly _____ of pure nard, that is a lot of pure perfume, pure fragrant oil.
- c. Mary heart was overflowing, and she expresses her heart's adoration through this act of _____, and it is an expression of worship.

IV. APOSTASY (John 12:4-8)

- a. Their silenced was interrupted by Judas Iscariot, whom John described as one of the disciples of Jesus who intended to _____ him. (John 6:70-71)
- b. He was ready now to get out, whatever was going to be the end of this thing for Jesus, he did not want the same _____.
- c. Judas was an _____. What is an apostate? Somebody who defects from truth with the knowledge of the truth.
- d. The Lord responded to Judas in verse 7, "*Therefore Jesus said, 'Let her alone, so that she may keep it for the day of My _____.'*" (John 12:7, NASB95)
- e. Jesus says in verse 8, "*For you always have the _____ with you, but you do not always have Me.*" (John 12:8, NASB95)

V. INDIFFERENCE (John 12:9)

- a. John closes this bit of history by introducing us to two more _____ of people just briefly.
- b. First, the _____ who was indifferent.

VI. HOSTILITY (John 12:10-11)

- a. John closes this scene with the _____ of the religious leaders, and their wicked scheming.

- b. They want to kill Lazarus because of his resurrection many of the Jews were going away, going away from them to follow Jesus.

CONCLUSION:

This morning we have looked at how people respond to Jesus. When we are confronted with the truth about Jesus we must decide what we are going to do with that truth. Martha chose to believe the truth and she expressed her gratitude through service. This is an aspect of a true Christian, he or she will want to serve the Lord Jesus. We saw the choice of Lazarus and Simon; they chose to believe the truth that Jesus was the Savior of the world and they demonstrated for us the fellowship that comes from trusting in Christ. You can have that same fellowship with Jesus when you put your faith in Him. He will speak to you through His word, and you can fellowship with Him in prayer. Finally, we saw Mary's choice and she demonstrated her belief in the Lord Jesus as Savior through her sacrificial worship. Her love and trust in the Lord were expressed in giving to the Lord what was most valuable to her, that is true heartfelt worship. Then we saw Judas, the crowd, and the religious leaders each responding to the truth in their own way, but each rejecting it.

This morning you have been confronted by the truth about Jesus. He came to this earth to die for the sins of the world. His death satisfied the justice of God, and we can now be declared righteous through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. It is simple, we come to God in repentance admitting that we have sinned, but we believe that Jesus died on the cross in our place, that He suffered God's wrath against sin on our behalf. We believe that His death satisfied God's wrath and by His death and resurrection our sins are forgiven. For you who have already trusted in the Savior, keep believing, serve the Lord Jesus with your whole heart, fellowship with Him through His Word and prayer and worship Him sacrificially and extravagantly, because He gave everything so that you might have forgiveness, salvation, and eternal life.