

## Great Love – The Gift (Mark 14:1-9)

1 Cor 13:13 now abide faith, hope, love, these 3; but the greatest *is* love.

Col 3:12-15 But above all these things put on love...the bond of perfection

This passage beautifully illustrates great love in the midst of real darkness

### I. Her Worship: A Woman Anoints Jesus Head with Precious Oil (v 3)

This woman is not Mary (John 13:1) this woman, 6 days before Passover

Mary – meal with Lazarus & Martha, this meal: Simon the leper

She breaks the vase/ box of spikenard, anoints Jesus' head: 300 denarii

### II. Their Grumbling: Disciples Grumble over her lavish offering (vv 4,5)

This account: all disciples grumble/ complain at the woman's offering

Their criticism: the perfume could have been sold to feed the poor

They criticized her sharply

### III. His Defense: Jesus Defends the Woman's Act of Devotion (6-9)

1. *Her act was beautiful, because Jesus knew the motive of her heart was love*
2. *It was a beautiful, spontaneous response to the prompting of the Holy Spirit*
3. *It was beautiful because it was not dominated by practicality*
  - i. Jesus defended her action because here love was focused on Him
  - ii. Her act of devotion was full, complete, total: 'she broke the jar'
  - iii. Her offering was a discerning act of worship

Her offering: act of great love that Jesus said would never be forgotten