

Lady with the Alabaster Box/Cowgirl Extraordinaire



Illustration Suggestions: Use a small box; something ornate if possible.

Introduction:

The Lady with the Alabaster Box was mentioned by Matthew and Mark. There is another mention of anointment of Jesus by a woman in Luke 7:37.

But this lesson focuses on the lady of Mark 14: 3-9. There is so much to learn from this lady in this one passage that if we just sit here and read this one piece, we have much to learn from her experience.

Here we see the true story of a lady who has sought out, that is, found Jesus. She went into the house of a man named Simon who had been known as a contagiously ill man at one time. He is still referred to in the scripture as Simon the Leper. She walks right in while supper is being served to the guests. She goes right up to Simon's guest, Jesus, and proceeds to open an extremely expensive gift and pour it out on his head.

I'd say the Lady with the Alabaster Box is Cowgirl Extraordinaire! She was focused; she was on a mission!

Reference: *Mark 14:3-9 (KJV)*

And being in Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at meat, there came a woman having an alabaster box of ointment of spikenard very precious; and she brake the box, and poured it on his head.

And there were some that had indignation within themselves, and said, Why was this waste of the ointment made?

For it might have been sold for more than three hundred pence, and have been given to the poor. And they murmured against her.

And Jesus said, Let her alone; why trouble ye her? she hath wrought a good work on me.

For ye have the poor with you always, and whensoever ye will ye may do them good: but me ye have not always.

She hath done what she could: she is come aforehand to anoint my body to the burying.

Verily I say unto you, Wheresoever this gospel shall be preached throughout the whole world, this also that she hath done shall be spoken of for a memorial of her.



What THEY said about her:

No matter what you do; someone will criticize you. Therefore, you might as well get used to that.

But there are times that you are not expecting to be criticized. You least expect it when you know you are doing the right thing.

And there were some that had indignation within themselves, and said, Why was this waste of the ointment made?

Not everything “implied” is put into words by the critical crowd. For example in this passage of scripture we see the words “they” spoke but we can also feel and see the words they did not speak, but rather wanted you to “get” in their conversation.

Let’s see what “THEY” said about her:

- She’s not worthy!
- Who does she think that she is?!
- Well, the very “nerve” of her!
- How dare she come in here like she belonged!
- She doesn’t have the right to come in to His presence.
- That’s expensive ointment. Does she think she can buy her way to Jesus?
- Well, that ointment could have been sold and THEN it would have used for something useful.
- She just wasted it.
- She is beneath His “class”.

Anytime you stand up for Jesus; anytime you stand on the Word of God; someone in the crowd will be ready to cut you down for that stand you take.

You just need to be ready for that to happen. The world does not know Who Jesus is. They see Him as a prophet; a good man; a healer; a do-gooder; a popular name in some circles. But they do not see Him as Lord and King and Redeemer.

The majority will always be wrong on that matter! You will always be in the minority if you are a true believer.

You will be in the minority of the minority if you are a disciple of Jesus. Very few go that far. Will you go that far? It is a choice you make.

Even the majority of Christians will be “cultural Christians” and will find their lives consumed with “the pleasures of this world”. Will you be different? Will you be willing to take the ridicule of your peers?

Your peers won’t understand your position many times. They will accuse you of being “holy Joe” or “super-pious” or some other term that infers you are trying to be better than them.

If you are living the separated Christian life; you will be in the minority of the minorities. You must choose.

The lady with the alabaster box made a choice. She had eyes only for Jesus in that house. Her ears were closed to the crowd that was there to “fellowship” with Jesus. She came to worship Jesus one on one.

What JESUS said about her:

Far more important than what the crowd says about you is what Jesus has to say about you. Nothing is ever more important than that.

Let's see what Jesus had to say about her:

- Let her alone.
- She does a good thing.
- She "GETS IT" and knows I am going to the cross, will die, and be buried, and rise again.
- You see, she is preparing me for the burial. She gets it.
- This will be remembered forever of her.
- I love her and I like what she is doing.

What JESUS says about you:

Far more important than what the crowd says about you is what Jesus has to say about you. Nothing is ever more important than that. I know I said that once before, but this needs repeating.

Jesus says:

- I lay down my life....*John 10:15*
- I come so that ye might have life....*John 10:10*
- Come unto me.....*Matthew 11:28*
- I go to prepare a place for you.....*John 14:2*
- I am the way, the truth, and the life. No man cometh unto the Father except by me. *John 14:6*

The lady with the alabaster box: She got it. Do you?

[Plan of salvation presented here.](#)