

Forward

Heart Of The Matter

October 6 & 9, 2016

A Story of Two Hearts

(Mark 14:1-10)

While he was in Bethany, reclining at the table in the home of Simon the Leper, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume, made of pure nard. She broke the jar and poured the perfume on his head. Some of those present were saying indignantly to one another, "Why this waste of perfume? It could have been sold for more than a year's wages and the money given to the poor." And they rebuked her harshly. "Leave her alone," said Jesus. "Why are you bothering her? She has done a beautiful thing to me. The poor you will always have with you, and you can help them any time you want. But you will not always have me. She did what she could. She poured perfume on my body beforehand to prepare for my burial. Truly I tell you, wherever the gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will also be told, in memory of her."

✓ Sacrifice makes no sense to people who live to
receive.

(Luke 12:15) Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions."

✓ Sacrifice makes perfect sense to people who have
received a miracle.

(Mark 2:17) When Jesus heard this, he told them, "Healthy people don't need a doctor—sick people do. I have come to call not those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are sinners."

✓ Sacrifice for the sake of Jesus has a never-ending
impact.

(Matthew 6:19-21) "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

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(Proverbs 4:23) Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.

(Psalm 139:23-24) Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

"Miracles of God always begin with a miracle in our heart."

1. I must deal with my selfish heart.

(James 3:14-16) But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. Such "wisdom" does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.

2. I must deal with my grieving heart.

(1 Timothy 6:9-10) People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

3. I must develop a generous heart.

(1 Timothy 6:18-19) Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

4. I must develop a grateful heart.

(2 Corinthians 9:12) This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God.

(John 13:17) "Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them."

The easiest way to align my heart with God's is to put my treasure in His Kingdom.