

The Answerer

Answering children's questions

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How Precious is a Good Woman

How Precious is a Good Woman?!

(There are many of them)

Matthew 26:6-13 & Mark 14:3-9 & John 12:1-11

That title is a question - and it is a 'saying' of importance and I ask you to read it and see if you agree.

I know that for many people who read these stories, English is their second language, so I am including several alternative words that mean 'good' and hope they may be helpful to you as you learn English. There are over 90 such other words in my *Thesaurus*. Here are some that can be used instead of, or with, 'good': excellent, commendable, great, pleasing, splendid, admirable, praiseworthy, skilled, proper, true and worth. (IE: "She is truly precious.")

In this story Jesus is at a home in Bethany. Martha, Mary and their brother Lazarus live there. Martha and Mary are making lunch and some people were there who wanted to see Lazarus because Jesus had raised Lazarus back to life.



Mary, (Mark says: 'a woman') brought a jar of pure Nard, a beautiful (perfumed) aromatic oil prepared from the spikenard plant and broke the seal and poured the oil on the head and feet of Jesus. (Matthew and Mark say it was poured on His head). After smoothing it over His feet she wiped his feet with her long hair. The beautiful perfume of the ointment filled the house with its lovely fragrance. The Nard was very expensive (cost a lot of money).

I have a 'Classic' book: Life of Christ by F.W. Farrar. Dean Farrar - The former Dean of Canterbury. He spent several years in the 'Holy Land' (Israel) from 1870 and wrote a quite beautiful account of all that he found and discovered about Jesus and the land where He spent his thirty three years - as a human being and 'God's Messiah' or promised one. He mentioned that the pure ('Genuine') Nard would have cost ten English pounds in 1872. And that Judas betrayed Jesus for about one third of that amount. *This classic book from which I have gleaned some insights into the life of Jesus Christ can be seen beautifully on the WWW. (Same text as my copy given to my Mother by her brother - who did not come home from the 'Great War' or World War one).*

For Bible researchers it is a beautiful insight into the Holy Land and the Gospel accounts of The Life of Christ.

Judas complained bitterly that it would have been better to have sold the Nard and the money given to the poor. That is true in one way, except that Judas was a thief and sometimes stole money from the disciple's money bag. So Jesus rebuked him saying, in Matthew's story, "Why are you criticising her? For she has done a good thing to me! You will always have the poor among you, but you won't always have me. She has poured this perfume on me to prepare my body for burial. And she'll always be remembered for this deed." (Matthew 26:10-13).

This verse is from Mark's story of Jesus words - it is truly lovely: Jesus said: "She has done what she could, and has anointed my body ahead of time for my burial. And I tell you a solemn truth, that wherever the Good News is preached throughout the world, this woman's deed will be remembered and praised." (Mark 14:8-9 TLB)

Jesus was to be killed and buried in the very next week.

It was all a part of God's plan and Jesus knew all about it.

Amazing and true!

How truly admirable and praiseworthy is the story of this good woman.

Many cannot show such compassion and deep love for another person, as this woman did.

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Consider the actions of a well known 'Good Woman' affectionately called 'Mother Teresa' ~ could you do, would you do things she did? Google her.

