

The Passion Week

Palm Sunday to Resurrection Sunday

Lesson Four

THE ANOINTING WITH OIL



There were THREE occasions when Jesus was anointed with oil.



1. Early in his ministry
at the home of Simon the Pharisee.



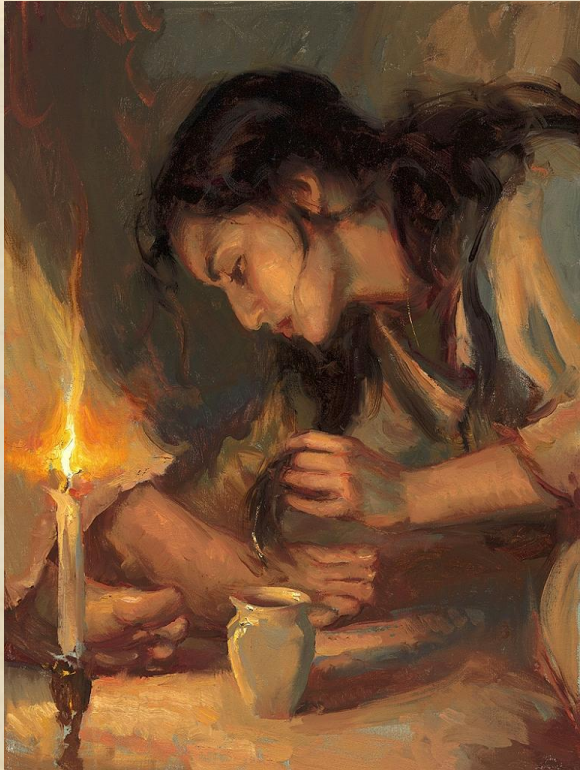
2. Six days before the Passover,
at the home of Lazarus in Bethany.



3. Less than two days before the Passover, at the home of Simon the leper.

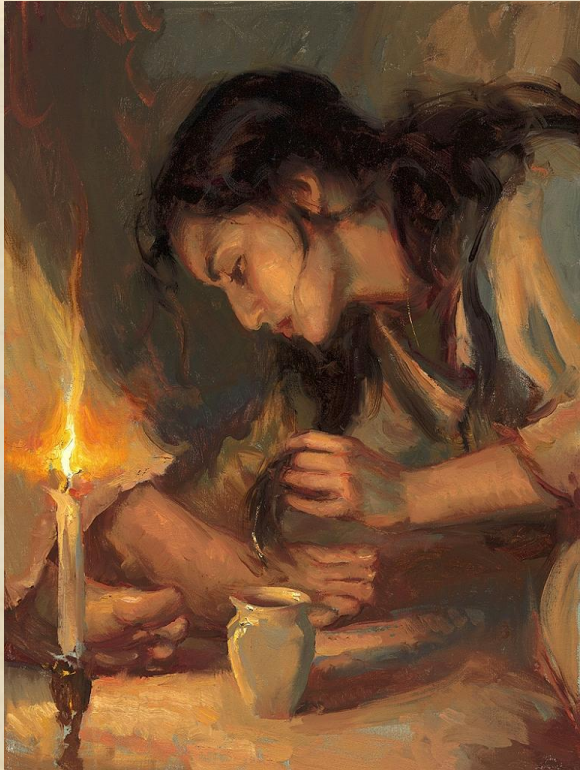


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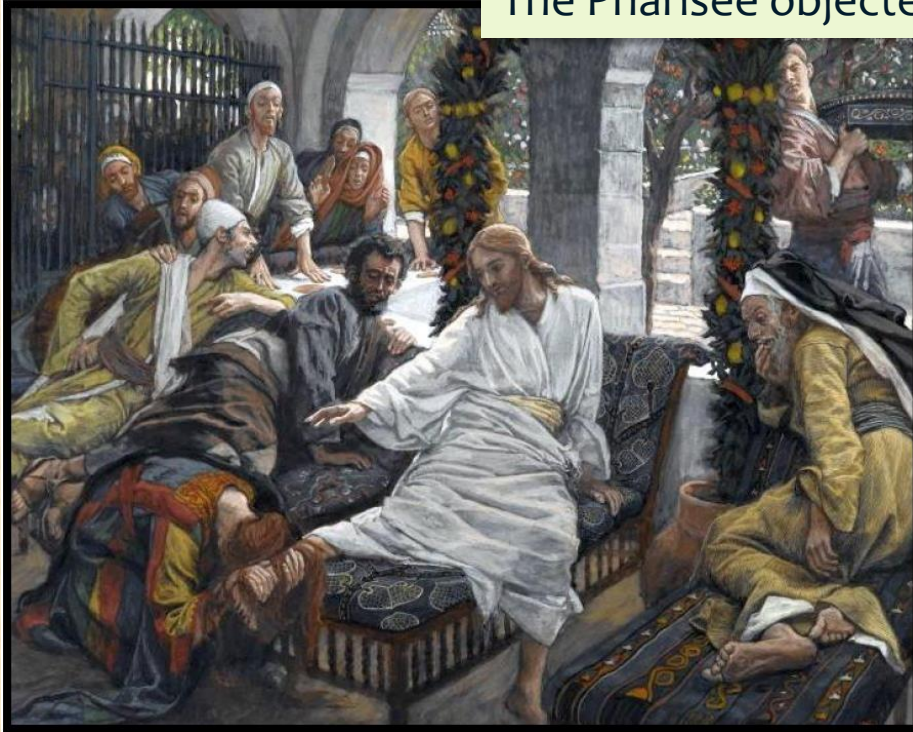
It is often said that this was Mary Magdalene, but this cannot be proven scripturally.



Luke 7:36-38

- ³⁶ And one of the Pharisees desired him that he would eat with him. And he went into the Pharisee's house, and sat down to meat.
- ³⁷ And, behold, a woman in the city, which was a sinner, when she knew that *Jesus* sat at meat in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster box of ointment,
- ³⁸ And stood at his feet behind *him* weeping, and began to wash his feet with tears, and did wipe *them* with the hairs of her head, and kissed his feet, and anointed *them* with the ointment.

The Pharisee objected because of the woman's bad reputation.



Luke 7:39

Now when the Pharisee which had bidden him saw *it*, he spake within himself, saying,

This man,
if he were a prophet,
would have known who and what
manner of woman *this is* that
toucheth him:
for she is a sinner.

Jesus used the occasion to teach why some people love God more than others:



Luke 7:40-43

- 40 And Jesus answering said unto him,
Simon, I have somewhat to say unto thee.
And he saith, Master, say on.
- 41 There was a certain creditor which had two debtors: the one owed five hundred pence, and the other fifty.
- 42 And when they had nothing to pay, he frankly forgave them both. Tell me therefore, which of them will love him most?
- 43 Simon answered and said,
I suppose that *he*, to whom he forgave most.
And he said unto him,
Thou hast rightly judged.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
						6	5
4 PALM SUNDAY	3	2	1	PASSOVER			

The second anointing is recorded only in John's gospel.

“Six days before the passover” Mary, the sister of Lazarus and Martha, anointed Christ's feet with an expensive ointment called spikenard.



This took place at their home in Bethany.

John 12:1-3

- ¹ Then Jesus six days before the passover came to Bethany, where Lazarus was which had been dead, whom he raised from the dead.
- ² There they made him a supper; and Martha served: but Lazarus was one of them that sat at the table with him.
- ³ Then took Mary a pound of ointment of spikenard, very costly, and anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped his feet with her hair: and the house was filled with the odour of the ointment.



Judas Iscariot condemned her act as a waste of money.

John 12:4-8

- 4 Then saith one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, which should betray him,
- 5 Why was not this ointment sold for three hundred pence, and given to the poor?
- 6 This he said, not that he cared for the poor; but because he was a thief, and had the bag, and bare what was put therein.
- 7 Then said Jesus, Let her alone: against the day of my burying hath she kept this.
- 8 For the poor always ye have with you; but me ye have not always.

1ST DAY
NISAN 10

2ND DAY
NISAN 11

3RD DAY
NISAN 12

4TH DAY
NISAN 13

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6TH DAY
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7TH DAY
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1ST DAY
NISAN 17

SUNDAY

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TUESDAY

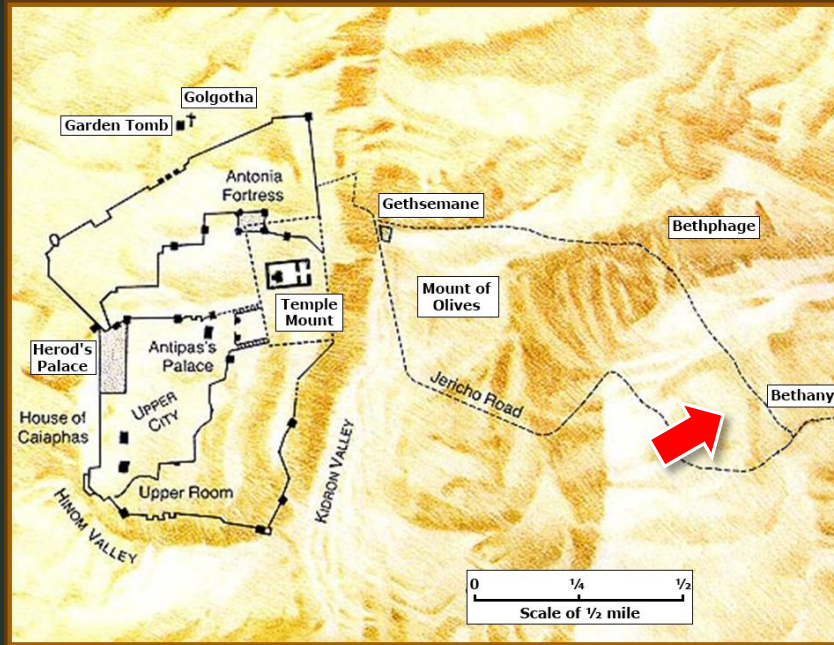
WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY



The third time Jesus was anointed was on Tuesday evening of the Passion Week. Jesus and his disciples were back in Bethany for the start of Nisan 13.

NISAN 13

TUESDAY NIGHT IN BETHANY

A woman anoints Christ's head with oil.

MATTHEW

26:6-13

MARK

14:3-9

LUKE

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JOHN

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NISAN 13

TUESDAY NIGHT IN BETHANY

A woman anoints Christ's head with oil.

Judas conspires to betray him.

MATTHEW

26:6-13

26:14-16

MARK

14:3-9

14:10-11

LUKE

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22:3-6

JOHN

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SATURDAY

SUNDAY



At the home of Simon the leper, an unnamed woman anointed his head.



This time, *all* the disciples objected.

Matthew 26:6-9

- 6 Now when Jesus was in Bethany, in the house of Simon the leper,
- 7 There came unto him a woman having an alabaster box of very precious ointment, and poured it on his head, as he sat *at meat*.
- 8 But when his disciples saw *it*, they had indignation, saying, To what purpose *is* this waste?
- 9 For this ointment might have been sold for much, and given to the poor.



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in the house of **Simon the leper**,
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and poured it on his head, as he sat *at meat*.
- 8 But when his disciples saw *it*,
they had indignation, saying,
To what purpose *is this waste*?
- 9 For this ointment might have been sold for
much, and given to the poor.

“Simon” was a very common name – we have read of the Pharisee named Simon; Simon, the father of Judas; and now Simon the leper. Of course, there was also Simon Peter.



Matthew 26:6-9

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- 7 There came unto him a woman having an alabaster box of very precious ointment, and poured it on his head, as he sat *at meat*.
- 8 But when his disciples saw *it*, they had indignation, saying, *To what purpose is this waste?*
- 9 For this ointment might have been sold for much, and given to the poor.

Was Judas having an evil influence on the other disciples?
This is the same argument he made some days earlier.

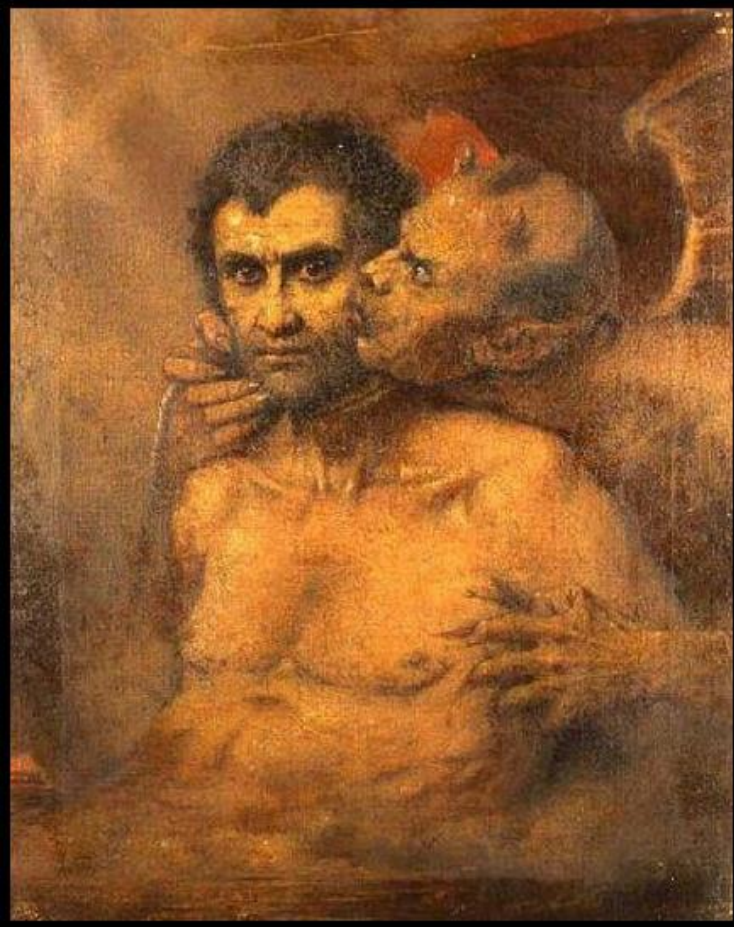


Matthew 26:10-13

- ¹⁰ When Jesus understood it, he said unto them,
Why trouble ye the woman?
for she hath wrought a good work upon me.
- ¹¹ For ye have the poor always with you;
but me ye have not always.
- ¹² For in that she hath poured this ointment on
my body, she did it for my burial.
- ¹³ Verily I say unto you,
Whosoever this gospel shall be preached in
the whole world,
*there shall also this, that this woman hath
done, be told for a memorial of her.*



His answer satisfied all his disciples but one.



Luke 22:3-4

- 3 Then entered Satan into Judas surnamed Iscariot, being of the number of the twelve.
- 4 And he went his way, and communed with the chief priests and captains, how he might betray him unto them.



Luke 22:5-6

- ⁵ And they were glad,
and covenanted to give him money.
- ⁶ And he promised, and sought
opportunity to betray him unto them
in the absence of the multitude.

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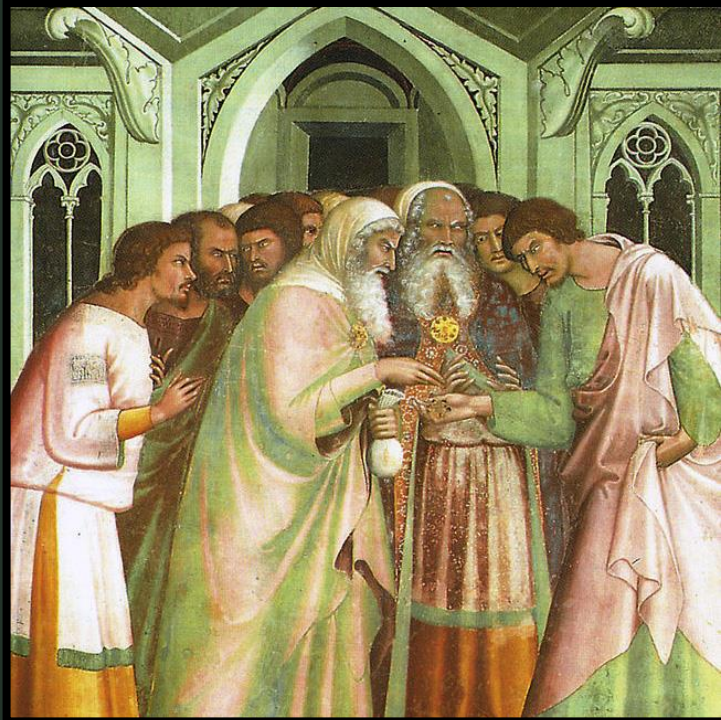
WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

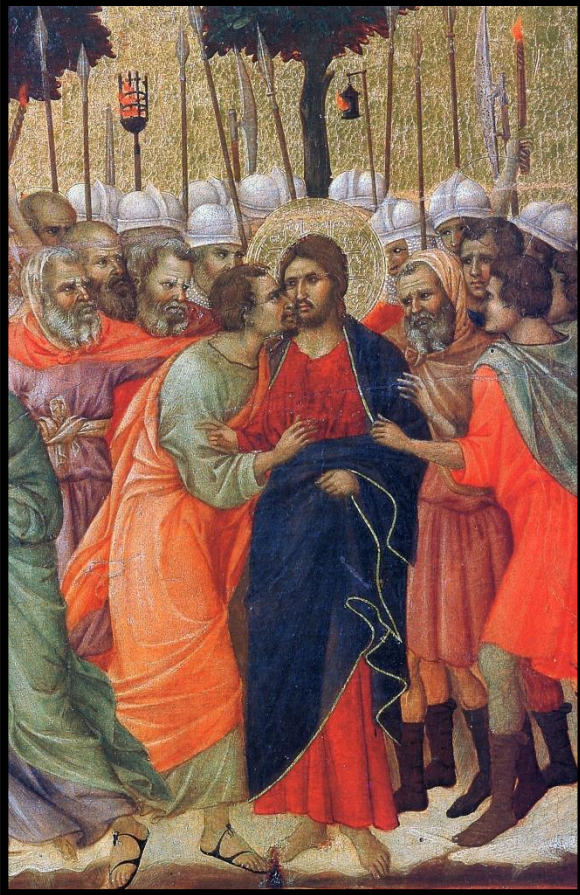
FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY



Wednesday of Holy Week is traditionally called “Spy Wednesday” since it was on this day (sometime between Tuesday night and Wednesday morning) that Judas conspired to betray Jesus.



The next 24 hours would be Jesus' last with his disciples before his betrayal and arrest.



UP NEXT:
The Last Supper

What did you learn?

Jesus was anointed three times:

- 1) By an unnamed woman at the home of Simon the Pharisee
- 2) By Mary, the sister of Lazarus, in Bethany
- 3) By an unnamed woman at the home of Simon the Leper

1. Which one happened early in his ministry?

At the home of Simon the Pharisee (Lk 7:36-43)

What did you learn?

Jesus was anointed three times:

- 1) By an unnamed woman at the home of Simon the Pharisee
- 2) By Mary, the sister of Lazarus, in Bethany
- 3) By an unnamed woman at the home of Simon the Leper

2. Which one happened six days before the Passover?

By Mary of Bethany (Jn 12:1)

What did you learn?

Jesus was anointed three times:

- 1) By an unnamed woman at the home of Simon the Pharisee
- 2) By Mary, the sister of Lazarus, in Bethany
- 3) By an unnamed woman at the home of Simon the Leper

3. Which two did Jesus say were for his burial?

By Mary, the sister of Lazarus
Jn 12:7: Then said Jesus, Let her alone: against the day of my burying hath she kept this.

At the home of Simon the leper
Mt 26:12: she did it for my burial.
Mk 14:8: she is come aforehand to anoint my body to the burying.

What did you learn?

Jesus was anointed three times:

- 1) By an unnamed woman at the home of Simon the Pharisee
- 2) By Mary, the sister of Lazarus, in Bethany
- 3) By an unnamed woman at the home of Simon the Leper

4. At the first anointing, who objected and why?

Simon the Pharisee.
Because the woman was
a sinner. (Lk 7:39)

What did you learn?

Jesus was anointed three times:

- 1) By an unnamed woman at the home of Simon the Pharisee
- 2) By Mary, the sister of Lazarus, in Bethany
- 3) By an unnamed woman at the home of Simon the Leper

5. At the second anointing, who objected and why?

Judas Iscariot, "because he was a thief and had the bag" (Jn 12:6).

What did you learn?

Jesus was anointed three times:

- 1) By an unnamed woman at the home of Simon the Pharisee
- 2) By Mary, the sister of Lazarus, in Bethany
- 3) By an unnamed woman at the home of Simon the Leper

6. At the third anointing, who objected and why?

All the disciples. "For this ointment might have been sold for much, and given to the poor" (Mt 26:9).

What did you learn?

Jesus was anointed three times:

- 1) By an unnamed woman at the home of Simon the Pharisee
- 2) By Mary, the sister of Lazarus, in Bethany
- 3) By an unnamed woman at the home of Simon the Leper

7. Where was Jesus when a woman washed his feet with her tears?

At the home of Simon the
Pharisee (Lk 7:37-38)

What did you learn?

Jesus was anointed three times:

- 1) By an unnamed woman at the home of Simon the Pharisee
- 2) By Mary, the sister of Lazarus, in Bethany
- 3) By an unnamed woman at the home of Simon the Leper

8. Who anointed his feet with an expensive oil called spikenard?

Mary of Bethany (Jn 12:3)

What did you learn?

Jesus was anointed three times:

- 1) By an unnamed woman at the home of Simon the Pharisee
- 2) By Mary, the sister of Lazarus, in Bethany
- 3) By an unnamed woman at the home of Simon the Leper

9. Where was Jesus when a woman anointed his head with an expensive ointment?

In Bethany, at the home of Simon the Leper (Mt 26:7)

What did you learn?

Jesus was anointed three times:

- 1) By an unnamed woman at the home of Simon the Pharisee
- 2) By Mary, the sister of Lazarus, in Bethany
- 3) By an unnamed woman at the home of Simon the Leper

10. Why is Wednesday of Holy Week traditionally called "Spy Wednesday"?

It is the day Judas Iscariot agreed to betray Christ.

Why was Jesus anointed three times?



Here is a *possible* answer:
Because he is our great Prophet, Priest, and King



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