

extravagant sacrifice

Sep 29 2019

Mark 14:1-11

A Call of Extravagant Sacrifice

And truly, I say to you, wherever the gospel is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in memory of her. – Mark 14:9

In the previous section, Jesus exhorted His disciples to remain faithful in times of distress being assured of God's providence, the Spirit's power, and the coming of Christ (13:1-37). In this passage, Mark contrasted a woman with the chief priests and scribes seeking to kill Jesus (14:1-2), the indignant disciples (14:3-5), and Judas the betrayer (14:10-11). All these men revealed a self-centered attitude while the woman made a selfless sacrifice for Christ.

A Costly Sacrifice. The woman gave up the most precious thing in her life for Jesus. She broke an alabaster flask to anoint Him with a very costly oil. The woman did what she could with what she have and Jesus described it as a beautiful thing. (14:6-8)

A Praiseworthy Sacrifice. Jesus commended the woman for her sacrifice. He declared that wherever the gospel is preached, she will be remembered and praised for what she did. The woman left a legacy worth emulating by disciples throughout all generations. (14:9)

The woman was able to make this extravagant sacrifice only because she realized who Jesus was and understood His mission. Anyone who truly knows Christ and fully comprehends what He did on the cross will not hesitate to heed His call. There is nothing we give Christ that will outweigh what He has done for us. We can never out give Him because He gave His all for us.

What is Christ calling you to do right now? What is the one precious thing He is asking you to give up to honor Him?

worship schedule

Prelude
Worship through Songs
Worship through Prayer
Announcements
Worship Through the Word

Giving
Welcoming of Guests
Benediction
Closing Song

Kindly turn off or mute your mobile phone during the service

We have a Sunday School for children ages 4 through 13

Our services start on time. Please go inside 5 minutes before the service.

devotional

Pain, when properly handled, can shape a life for greatness. History is replete with stories of those whose struggles and scars formed the foundation for remarkable achievements. In fact, it was because of their hardship they gained what they needed to achieve greatness.

For a long time in my life, I wrestled with that concept. It seemed to be a cruel philosophy. Why should anyone need to suffer? What do you mean, "There are benefits that come only through struggles?" I have now come full circle. I agree with A. W. Tozer, who said, "It is doubtful whether God can bless a man greatly until He has hurt him deeply."¹ I could mention numerous examples, but certainly no life evidences this truth more clearly than the life of Joseph.

For the most part, Joseph's experiences thus far have been somber. He may have been born a favored son, but his life was filled with disappointment, mistreatment, and rejection, with fear and false accusations, with slavery and abandonment. We left Joseph alone in prison as we ended the previous chapter. Now, after a gap of two full years, we pick up his story again. Remember, when we left him, he had told the cupbearer two years earlier, "Now that I've told you the meaning of your dream, don't forget me. Keep me in mind when things go well with you, and when you get promoted. Please do me the kindness of mentioning me to Pharaoh, and get me out of this place. Remember me." But the cupbearer failed to remember or mention Joseph. Only three days after Joseph said this, the man was released and restored to his former position as chief cupbearer to Pharaoh. He promptly forgot all about his days in the dungeon, as well as his cell mate, Joseph.

Two full years passed after that event—a long time to be forgotten. We may find ourselves asking, "After all Joseph had been through, why would something like this happen?" He had been obedient to God and was earlier promoted because "God was with him." The answer is that God was still at work in his life. The same is true for you.

¹ A. W. Tozer, *The Root of the Righteous* (Camp Hill, Penn.: Christian Publications, 1986), 137.
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this time last week



155 attendees
22 kids

project noah giving last week
P 11,370

project noah overall total
P 5,445,351.85

stewardship report

weekly gracious giving

sep 1	sep 8	sep 15	sep 22	sep 29	total:
107,020	46,640	101,240	49,340		P 304,240