

The Prostitute's Offering That Led To The Crucifixion

*And being in Bethany at the house of Simon the leper, as He sat at the table, a woman came having an alabaster flask of **very costly oil** of spikenard. Then she broke the flask and poured it on His head. But there were some who were indignant among themselves, and said, “**Why was this fragrant oil wasted? For it might have been sold for more than THREE HUNDRED DENARII** and given to the poor.” **And they criticized her sharply.** But Jesus said, “Let her alone. Why do you trouble her? She has done a good work for Me. (Mark 14:4-6 NKJV)*

The woman was a sinner. (A prostitute we presume) (Luke 7:37)

*Then Mary took a pound of **very costly oil** of spikenard, anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped His feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the oil. But one of His disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, who would betray Him, said, ⁵ “Why was this fragrant oil not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?” This he said, not that he cared for the poor, but because he was a thief, and had the money box; and he used to take what was put in it. (John 12:3-6 NKJV)*

*Verily I say unto you, **Wheresoever 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.** (Matthew 26:13 KJV)*

***THEN** one of the twelve, called Judas Iscariot, went unto the chief priests, And said unto them, What will ye give me, and I will deliver him unto you? And they covenanted with him for thirty pieces of silver. And **FROM THAT TIME** he sought opportunity to betray him. (Matthew 26:14-16 KJV)*

The Monetary Value of This Offering

*Why was this perfume not sold for **300 denarii** [A YEAR'S WAGES for an ordinary workman] and that [money] given to the poor (the destitute)? (John 12:5 AMPC)*

The median annual income for an individual was \$63,000 in the U.S. in 2020.

*But He answered and said to them, “You give them something to eat.” And they said to Him, “Shall we go and buy **two hundred denarii** worth of bread and give them something to eat?” (Mark 6:37 NKJV)*

*And they that had eaten were about **five thousand men, beside women and children.** (Matthew 14:21)*

What if every man had only one wife and one kid? That is 15,000 People!

Evidently 200 Denarii was enough to feed 15,000 people.

How much would that be today? Even at only \$5 each that is \$75,000!

The value of the prostitutes oil was estimated at 300 (or more than 300) Denarii.

This would put the value at over \$100,000!

This was a HUGE offering and the disciples saw it as a waste.

Do you have this same spirit that Judas had?

And they criticized her sharply. (Mark 14:5 NKJV)

Are you criticizing ministers today over money, offerings, wasteful spending, etc?