

Lazarus' Shabbat



Some days earlier,
Jesus had raised Lazarus
from the dead.

This account is an excerpt from
Solid Saint, How Peter Became a Rock

Six days before Passover, on Shabbat, Jesus and his disciples went back to Bethany for a meal at Mary, Martha, and Lazarus's home. Peter likely felt a strong spiritual connection as he sat with both Jesus and Lazarus, whom Jesus had brought back to life. During the meal, Mary served them, while Martha poured a pint of pure nard onto Jesus' feet. Judas Iscariot protested, saying the expensive ointment—worth a year's wages—should have been sold to help the poor. Judas wasn't concerned about the needy; as the group's treasurer, he hoped to steal any money raised.

A crowd gathered around the house because of Jesus' fame and the novelty and spiritual impact of Lazarus' resurrection. The leaders of the temple took note and made plans to kill Lazarus as well as Jesus because many Jews were believing in Jesus because he had raised Lazarus from the dead.(1)

(1) John 12.1-9.

