



ULTIMATE CHOICES
REJECTION OR WORSHIP?
JOHN 11:45-12:11

Ben Blakey - Compass Bible Church - January 3, 2020

1. Don't

(11:45-57, 12:4-11)

John 11:45-12:11 (ESV)

45 Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him, 46 but some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done. 47 So the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered the council and said, "What are we to do? For this man performs many signs. 48 If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation." 49 But one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, "You know nothing at all. 50 Nor do you understand that it is better for you that one man should die for the people, not that the whole nation should perish." 51 He did not say this of his own accord, but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation, 52 and not for the nation only, but also to gather into one the children of God who are scattered abroad. 53 So from that day on they made plans to put him to death.

54 Jesus therefore no longer walked openly among the Jews, but went from there to the region near the wilderness, to a town called Ephraim, and there he stayed with the disciples.

55 Now the Passover of the Jews was at hand, and many went up from the country to Jerusalem before the Passover to purify themselves. 56 They were looking for Jesus and saying to one another as they stood in the temple, "What do you think? That he will not come to the feast at all?" 57 Now the chief priests and the Pharisees had given orders that if anyone knew where he was, he should let them know, so that they might arrest him.

12 Six days before the Passover, Jesus therefore came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. 2 So they gave a dinner for him there. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those reclining with him at table. 3 Mary therefore took a pound of expensive ointment made from pure nard, and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. 4 But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (he who was about to betray him), said, 5 "Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" 6 He said this, not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief, and having charge of the moneybag he used to help himself to what was put into it. 7 Jesus said, "Leave her alone, so that she may keep it for the day of my burial. 8 For the poor you always have with you, but you do not always have me."

9 When the large crowd of the Jews learned that Jesus was there, they came, not only on account of him but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. 10 So the chief priests made plans to put Lazarus to death as well, 11 because on account of him many of the Jews were going away and believing in Jesus.

2. Act

(12:1-3)

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. Read Luke 9:57-62. What are some modern-day excuses people might make for not fully following Jesus? Have you ever made any of these excuses, or is it possible that you are still making them?
2. Read Mark 14:10-11. It seems that Judas was disappointed that following Jesus wasn't leading to his financial or political benefit. What are some selfish reasons people today might "follow" Jesus but will likely lead to disillusionment.
3. Read John 11:49-53. What comfort can you draw from knowing that even the worst schemes of man are not outside of God's control or God's plan?
4. Read Ephesians 2:1-10. How does this imagery of resurrection impact the way you view your own salvation? How should these realities affect the levels of worship and gratitude in your life?
5. If I were to talk to the people that know you best, would they say that an aroma of worship fills your life? While that may look different for different people, in what ways would you like your life to be a greater reflection of the picture of worship we see in John 12?

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

Here are some books which may help you dig deeper into what we studied today. While Pastor Ben cannot endorse everything about each book/author, he does think these books are worth considering and reading.

DeMoss, Nancy Leigh. *Choosing Gratitude*. Moody Publishers, 2009.

MacArthur, John. *The Gospel According to Jesus*. Zondervan, 2008.

MacArthur, John. *Worship: The Ultimate Priority*. Moody Publishers, 2012.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Pray that many in our community would not cling to selfish excuses but would turn to Jesus.

Pray that our congregation would spread a fragrance of worship and gratitude throughout this valley.

Pray that 2021 would be the most fruitful year of disciple making yet at CBCTV.

Pray that God would provide a permanent home for CBCTV through the Taking Ground project.

REVIVAL FROM THE BIBLE READING

Date	O.T.	Psalms	Gospels	N.T.
1/4/2021	Genesis 6-9	Psalms 2:7-12	Matthew 2:1-12	Acts 1:15-26
1/5/2021	Genesis 10-12	Psalms 3	Matthew 2:13-23	Acts 2:1-13
1/6/2021	Genesis 13-15	Psalms 4	Matthew 3:1-12	Acts 2:14-36
1/7/2021	Genesis 16-18	Psalms 5:1-6	Matthew 3:13-17	Acts 2:37-47
1/8/2021	Genesis 19-20	Psalms 5:7-12	Matthew 4:1-11	Acts 3:1-10
1/9/2021	Genesis 21-23	Psalms 6	Matthew 4:12-25	Acts 3:11-26