

WHO IS THIS MAN?

SENSITIVE OR CYNICAL?

Mark 14:1-11 Jeff Schreve

Sensitive: quick to detect or respond to slight changes, signals, or influences; having or displaying a quick and delicate appreciation of others' feelings.

Cynical: a distrust of human sincerity and integrity; concerned only with one's own interests and typically disregarding accepted or appropriate standards in order to achieve them.

Mary was very sensitive to Jesus, and Judas was very cynical.

1. Spiritually sensitive people sense their opportunities.

A. Like Mary, they recognize the time is short.

"Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be delivered to the chief priests and the scribes; and they will condemn Him to death, and will deliver Him to the Gentiles. And they will mock Him and spit upon Him, and scourge Him, and kill Him, and three days later He will rise again." Mark 10:33-34

B. Like Mary, they desire to honor the Lord with their best.

And while He was in Bethany at the home of Simon the leper, and reclining at the table, there came a woman with an alabaster vial of very costly perfume of pure nard; and she broke the vial and poured it over His head. Mark 14:3

C. Like Mary, they are often misunderstood and maligned.

But some were indignantly remarking to one another, "Why has this perfume been wasted? Mark 14:4

D. Like Mary, they are pleasing to Jesus.

She has done a good deed to Me. Mark 14:6

2. Spiritually cynical people waste their opportunities.

And Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went off to the chief priests, in order to betray Him to them. And they were glad when they heard this, and promised to give him money. And he began seeking how to betray Him at an opportune time. Mark 14:10-11

A. Like Judas, they appear saved but aren't saved.

B. Like Judas, they conceal their wicked motives.

But Judas Iscariot, one of His disciples, who was intending to betray Him, said, "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii, and given to poor people?" Now he said this, not because he was concerned about the poor, but because he was a thief, and as he had the money box, he used to pilfer what was put into it. John 12:4-6

C. Like Judas, they are in it for self and not the Savior.

D. Like Judas, they lose everything for all eternity.

Be honest: are you more like Mary or more like Judas?