

The Acts of Faithful Women

TEXT – *Mark 14:3-9 And being in Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at meat, there came a woman having an alabaster box of ointment of spikenard very precious; and she brake the box, and poured it on his head. And there were some that had indignation within themselves, and said, Why was this waste of the ointment made? For it might have been sold for more than three hundred pence, and have been given to the poor. And they murmured against her. And Jesus said, **Let her alone; why trouble ye her? she hath wrought a good work on me. For ye have the poor with you always, and whensoever ye will ye may do them good: but me ye have not always. She hath done what she could: she is come aforehand to anoint my body to the burying. Verily I say unto you, Wheresoever this gospel shall be preached throughout the whole world, this also that she hath done shall be spoken of for a memorial of her.***

When looking for examples in Scripture of faithful servants of the Lord, we most often look at the men in the Bible. Today, I want to focus on some of the faithful women in the Word of God. All throughout history women have been the unsung heroes. They go about their never-ending daily tasks, usually getting very little recognition or gratitude. Without the faithful service of women caring for their husbands and children, most of our lives would come to a chaotic and grinding halt.

As we examine some of the deeds done by faithful women in Scripture, let them inspire us to appreciate the works of our own mother's and motivate us to greater acts ourselves.

1. A Woman's Act of Love for the Saviour

The text verses told of the woman (Mary) who anointed Jesus with precious ointment and washed his feet with her tears. This account is also told in Luke 7:36-50. Mary couldn't do much, but her heart was so full of love for the Saviour that she did what she could to show her love for Him.

Mark 13:8 She hath done what she could: she is come aforehand to anoint my body to the burying.

Luke 7:47 Wherefore I say unto thee, Her sins, which are many, are forgiven; for she loved much: but to whom little is forgiven, the same loveth little.

Questions for us today:

- ~ Do we have a genuine love in our heart for our Saviour?
- ~ What can we do for Him to show Him our love?

2. A Woman's Act of Sacrificial Giving

Mark 12:41-44 And Jesus sat over against the treasury, and beheld how the people cast money into the treasury: and many that were rich cast in much. And there came a certain poor widow, and she threw in two mites, which make a farthing. And he called unto him his disciples, and saith unto them, Verily I say unto you, That this poor widow hath cast more in, than all they which have cast into the treasury: For all they did cast in of their abundance; but she of her want did cast in all that she had, even all her living.

This woman did not have much to give, but her heart was full of generosity. She was willing to give all that she had. Although she is unnamed in Scripture, this lady is a great example of sacrificial giving.

Questions for us today:

- ~ How much are we willing to sacrifice for the Lord?
- ~ Do we have a generous spirit like this woman?

3. A Woman's Acts of Kindness to Others

Acts 9:36 Now there was at Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha, which by interpretation is called Dorcas: this woman was full of good works and almsdeeds which she did.

Dorcas was a woman who was full of compassion for the widows and poor. She used her abilities to make coats and garments for those in need. The widows wept when Dorcas died and the men sent for Peter who came and raised her to life again.

Questions for us today:

- ~ Are we aware of the needs of others around us?
- ~ Are we willing to use our talents and abilities to be a help to others?

4. A Woman's Act of Serving Others

Romans 16:1-2 I commend unto you Phebe our sister, which is a servant of the church which is at Cenchrea: That ye receive her in the Lord, as becometh saints, and that ye assist her in whatsoever business she hath need of you: for she hath been a succourer of many, and of myself also.

Phebe was a woman always willing to help others in the church in any way she could. She aided Paul as a minister as well as many other people.

Questions for us today:

- ~ Do we make a conscious effort to serve others, or do we prefer to be served?
- ~ Are we willing to help out in any way we can, even if it is a menial task?

5. A Woman's Act of Serving God

Luke 2:36-38 And there was one Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Aser: she was of a great age, and had lived with an husband seven years from her virginity; And she was a widow of about fourscore and four years, which departed not from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day. And she coming in that instant gave thanks likewise unto the Lord, and spake of him to all them that looked for redemption in Jerusalem.

Anna was a woman who spent her widowhood fasting, praying, and telling all who would listen about the Savior. Even in her senior years, she continued to serve faithfully.

Questions for us today:

- ~ Do we spend enough time fasting, praying, and witnessing to others?
- ~ Are we looking for ways to reduce our service, thinking we are too old, or have done enough already?

Conclusion: A woman's highest calling is to be a godly wife and mother. Along with that, we can see many examples in Scripture of women who have been faithful to the Lord in many areas. They should serve as a challenge to us and a pattern for us to model our own actions after their example. Let us be truly grateful for all that the women in our lives do for us and for their faithful service of the Lord.